MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER.

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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,
AN ORIGINAL WEEKLY
AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY JOURNAL.

CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE,
With an Able Corps of Assistants and Contributors.

The Rural New-Yorker is designed to be unsurpassed in Value, Purity, Usefulness and Variety of Contents, and unique and beautiful in Appearance. Its Conductor devotes his personal attention to the supervision of its various departments, and earnestly labors to render the Rural an eminently Reliable Guide on all the important Practical, Scientific and other Subjects intimately connected with the business of those whose interests it zealously advocates. As a Family Journal it is eminently Instructive and Entertaining—being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the Hearts and Homes of people of intelligence, taste and discrimination. It embraces more Agricultural, Horticultural, Scientific, Educational, Literary and News Matter, interspersed with appropriate and beautiful Engravings, than any other journal,—rendering it the most complete Agricultural, Literary and Family Newspaper in America.

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AGRICULTURAL.

SPRING-TIME REFLECTIONS.

MANURES, AND THE MANNER OF APPLICATION.

The warm, sunshiny hours with which we have recently been favored, are only the advent harbingers of blessings in store for the sons and daughters of earth. All [illegible] stand with joy, and to none can they prove more welcome than to the farmer, who, after a season of repose and comparative inactivity, holds himself in readiness for the campaign which is so soon to open. These glorious Spring days teem with prophecies the realization of which sober Autumn *may* witness,—they bud with promise, but whether we partake of the fruit is, in great measure, the result of our own endeavor. He who presides over all, and in whose hands are our destinies, has said that seed-time and harvest should not fail, yet there are conditions to which man must not only subscribe, but he must bring heart and soul to the work if he would enjoy the bounties with which Providence rewards the earnest laborer.

In successful farming we may consider it an axiom that to *be fed by the soil, the agriculturist must feed it in return.* In many portions of our country, young as it is, we can already perceive the baneful effects of constant cropping without giving back to the land any of the elements of fertility removed. It was thought by our fathers that a soil naturally so rich as marked various States in the Confederacy, was inexhaustible,—indeed, it is so argued with reference to certain tracts of our Western prairies at the present day,—and yet a generation has hardly disappeared before these Edens have given place to sterility, and "worn out lands" have become the patrimony of their children. This condition of affairs will inevitably result where the rule is *from the farm*, and those who would avoid such disastrous consequences will be obliged to reverse the order, putting prominently into their creed and their action the better guiding principle, *to the soil.* We must collect and prepare every material calculated to renew the energies and preserve the constituents of our heritage, and so we "would freely receive, freely give."

The use of special fertilizers for keeping up the condition of our estate, may be well enough when every source to which we can turn for plant-food upon our own domain has been invaded, its supplies devoted to their legitimate purposes, and that in the manner best calculated to yield the greatest profit from the materials used and the labor expended. This latter is the point to which we wish now to direct the attention of our readers. Very many have large quantities of manure, but the mode of application is such that not a tithe of the benefit is obtained therefrom which might be received, and what is gained seldom comes just when wanted.

Manures may be divided into two general classes, *liquid* and *solid.* In one or the other of these forms they are given to the soil. But few experiments with liquid fertilizers have been made by American farmers. The population of our country is not sufficiently dense, and land is too plenty and too cheap to make it pay, except in gardens near large cities, where a ready market and good prices can be obtained for vegetable productions. In a liquid state we have a more speedy exhibit of its properties, and where it can be used with pecuniary advantage, the profits are quickly transferred to the credit of the producer.

The solid form is the one in which our farmers feed their lands. The principal reasons for this mode of application, in addition to those already advanced, are the ease with which it may be handled, and the high rates of labor. In certain portions of Europe, where help can be obtained for a meagre outlay of capital, liquid manures are held in very great estimation, and with justness. But the condition of the manure when applied by the majority of our farmers, is not proper. We hear a great deal about fertilizers which are long, short, green, or partially decayed, and but very little concerning those which are well rotted, and finely pulverized. Now, this latter state is just what the producer should desire. He cannot afford to wait for the profits of an investment any better than those pursuing other callings, and yet were we to judge from the deposits made by many tillers of the soil, we would readily conclude they were sowing for their posterity to reap. When the materials for enriching land are comminuted, a less quantity is needed, this can be directly applied, and the results are speedily apparent to both eye and pocket.

Let the crop be what it may, the necessary pabulum ought to be found in the soil just as soon as growing vegetation requires it, and it should be in proper condition for absorption by the roots. In every stage of growth organic food is an essential to the development of the plant, and, therefore, it must be present at the date of planting. Mineral elements are more vigorously drawn upon at certain periods than at others, and as many of these fertilizers undergo important changes in the soil before they are fitted for plant-food, it is best they should be incorporated with the soil previous to the deposit of the seed. For example, bone dust, when given to wheat lands, oftentimes exhibits greater proof of its virtue two or three years following its application than during other periods. Unfermented manures are frequently put upon corn with the idea of benefiting the crop in the ground, but this method is, probably, as often a failure as a success, after crops receiving the more decided effects.

As regards the peculiar mechanical operations connected with the application of fertilizers, the Rural has already published the views of practical and experienced agriculturists. There is the same diversity of opinion upon this topic that marks all other subjects, and the various modes,—surface-manuring, plowing under, thorough incorporation with the soil, etc.,—have defenders and opposers. We are of the opinion that a rule to be followed *without exception*, cannot be given for this portion of farm operations. Campbell's *Agriculture* contains a paragraph or two upon this branch of our subject which we cannot refrain from condensing and giving to our readers. All kinds of manure, according to Prof. C., should be as thoroughly incorporated with the soil as possible. Heavy manures, as lime or plaster, he would apply to the surface after breaking up, then stir the soil, and their weight gradually sinks them during cultivation. Soluble ingredients, such as the alkaline salts in ashes, are soon carried down by rains. Fermented manures should be speedily covered, or mingled with the soil, because their ammonia is in a volatile form, and unless composted soon escapes. The tendency of volatile matters is to the surface, and when thus passing through the soil they are arrested and absorbed. This fact is especially distinguishable upon porous soils.

As regards top-dressing, Prof. C. considers it favorable to grass and clover crops in the winter and spring. Organic manures have their soluble ingredients carried down into the soil by rain, and the roots find their food at the very beginning of their spring growth. The unrotted portions of the manure remaining upon the surface are soon covered by the leaves, and decaying, form a rich, warm mold about the roots. Top-dressed corn will do well if newly gathered manure be used, containing urine, and other matters readily soluble. During Autumn and Winter, manures may always be applied to the surface without serious loss, and often with decided advantage. At all events, if they are to be exposed to the washings of rain, it is better it should be done upon the field than around the barn.

The subject we have thus somewhat hastily treated, is one of vital import to all those whose interests are connected with the soil, and we hope that the labors and experiments of the busy period so soon to open will be conducive to "progress and improvement" in our system of agriculture.

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H. T. B. VISITS JOHN JOHNSTON.

On the shore of a beautiful lake—you're badly mistaken if you think I am going to write a *romance*—lives John Johnston, the Farmer. He was born seventy years ago, in the south of Scotland.

"Blood will tell," undoubtedly, for Mr. Johnston reproduces the remarkable zeal of his grandfather and his father, in behalf of Agriculture and Agricultural Improvement. Several years of his early life were spent with his grandfather, who rented a large farm, and conducted it with marked ability; here he took his first lessons in draining land, high feeding, and progressive farming generally—lessons he has shown no disposition to forget.

After renting and managing a farm on his own account for a few years, Mr. Johnston removed with his family to America, in 1820. He came near purchasing a farm at Rochester, N. Y., but missed that chance, as many others, to their subsequent regret, have done, and purchased three miles from Geneva, N. Y., on the eastern shore of Seneca Lake, where he has ever since resided.

Mr. Johnston's "worldly goods" now consisted of $1,200, which he paid out for one hundred and twelve acres of land, partly cleared, nearly destitute of buildings, and *no way implicated in fancy farming.* He was now forced to run in debt for his outfit to the amount of some twelve hundred dollars. This, with the cost of his improvements, it may be well imagined, gave him some uneasiness, and taxed his energies to the utmost. His "*theory*" of farming was now to be put to a severe test. Others might indulge their *fancy*—he must make farming *pay.* He had been forewarned by a prominent citizen that "*nobody can make money by* farming *in these parts*—the only to do that, is by the "*rise of land,*"—a theory unfortunately pervading many new countries.

Mr. Johnston was now fairly in the *field.* The success which attended his efforts—his prominent position before the agricultural public, as the advocate of "high farming," justify some personal details. His history throws light upon a problem of vital importance to thousands who wish to know how a farmer in moderate circumstances, can pay off his debts, rise to competence, and—if such a thing should seem to be necessary—to affluence.

First—he was industrious. When he went to see a Geneva banker, he found [illegible] ed. However, he gives it as his mature and deliberate opinion, that those who would [illegible] work, should work ten hours a day, take meals regularly, and plenty of it—an opinion in which I most heartily concur. Impaired energy, incurable disease, premature death, follow attempts to do too much.

Second—He did his work well—plowed deep for those times, and turned the sod well over.

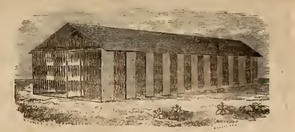
Third—He saved his manure, and applied it—which all farmers did not do in those days, if indeed they do now. Observing that one of his acquaintances neglected to cart out his manure for several years, Mr. Johnston told him one day, that for a moderate sum he would take his manure off out of his way, and clean up his yards handsomely. The owner of the manure considered it, said he thought the price asked was *reasonable*, and he would be glad to give it, but was afraid his neighbors would laugh at him. Mr. Johnston waited a little longer, and so did the manure; he then [illegible] his acquaintance, "Really, that manure is a very great annoyance to you; I will not only take it out of your way, but I will pay you $50 for it." The owner now began to think that if Mr. Johnston could afford to pay fifty dollars for it, and draw it, it must have some positive value, and he could afford to cart it out on his own land. Accordingly he commenced drawing it at once.

Fourth—Mr. Johnston pulled his stumps. At the cost of about 18 cents apiece, he removed some two thousand stumps, believing that it would cost more to work round them and lose the land they occupied, than to remove them. He employed a machine for that purpose.

Fifth—We now come to what makes Mr. Johnston's experience particularly valuable to American farmers. While he was still under the necessity of husbanding his resources, and could not afford to misapply a dollar, he commenced *tile draining*, and continued it from year to year, till he expended more than *five thousand dollars*, and laid more than *fifty miles of drains.* No sooner had he purchased a farm than he sent to Scotland for model tile; these he took to sundry brick makers, who were unable to copy; he then applied to a manufacturer of earthen ware at Waterloo, N. Y., who said he could make the tile, if Mr. Johnston could afford to pay his price. Three thousand tile were engaged, at $24 per thousand, which was cheap enough, as they had to be molded by hand. Mr. Johnston used these with satisfactory results. He then told the manufacturer that he would pay him $16 per thousand for ten thousand. The manufacturer took time to consider, and subsequently informed Mr. Johnston that he would furnish the tile, as he had invented a machine for molding them. Mr. Johnston afterwards agreed to take all the tile he could make, at (I think,) $12 per thousand. This was the origin of tile making in America,—there are now five establishments in full blast in Mr. J.'s vicinity. Mr. Johnston's services as the pioneer tile drainer of America are highly appreciated. It is not long since several eminent agricultural gentlemen of this State,—including Col. L. G. Morris, Erastus Corning, James S. Wadsworth, Horace Greeley, Luther Tucker, D. D. T. Moore,—presented Mr. Johnston with a magnificent service of plate as a token of their appreciation. I will not say Mr. Johnston is proud of it, but I will say, he has a right to be!

Sixth—Mr. Johnston, by a liberal application of lime, salt, and plaster to his land, has done much to demonstrate their value. He first applied lime to a half acre of wheat,—thought he could discover a difference in the fall, but in the spring, soon after the snow left, he could see where the lime was put very distinctly; took many friends to see it during the season, and when he harvested it, found that his limed land gave him twice as much wheat as the other. Encouraged by this experiment, he borrowed money of a friend and purchased a whole lime kiln at nine cents per bushel, and applied it at the rate of eighty bushels per acre. Such a liming will last, he thinks, five or six years. His soil is clay loam, and is not benefited by ashes; but he is a decided advocate of salt, which he applies at the rate of 300 or 400 pounds per acre. He also makes a free use of plaster upon his grass ground.

Seventh—Mr. Johnston's advocacy of high feeding is well known. He feeds large quantities of *oil meal*—sometimes as many as fifty tons in a winter—buys coarse grain, but never sells any. In this way he makes abundance of good manure for the farm, and has the best animals for market.



TOBACCO HOUSE WITHOUT DOORS, END BOARDING, &C., TO SHOW THE MANNER OF HANGING THE TOBACCO

Mr. Johnston claims to be no theorist; he recommends what he has tried, tells what he knows, practices what he teaches. It may be proper to observe that he not only made his farm support itself, but pay for the improvements, and for several additions to it, which from time to time he made.

I may mention here, that Mr. Johnston set up a threshing machine about 1822, believed to be the first threshing machine in America.

I cannot, in justice to Agriculture, second to no earthly interest, close this notice of one of its most enlightened, enthusiastic and efficient promoters, without claiming for him the respect due to eminent services. Whether judged by his zeal in a good cause, his energy of character and force of will, or by the results of his labors, he is entitled to rank among the distinguished of mankind. Not claiming the discovery of new principles or processes, he has seized with a vigorous understanding, and a determined purpose, upon cardinal points in husbandry, and while American farmers denied, doubted, or delayed, he pushed boldly on, reducing *theory* to *practice*, and forcing acquiescence by the logic of facts. His celebrity has imposed upon him a large correspondence from every section of our Confederacy, (the South included,) which he conducts with admirable promptness and patience. He gives advice, and answers questions, in all departments of practical life. Active and healthy, we trust he may long be spared to his family, his friends and his country.—H. T. B.

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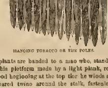
CULTURE OF TOBACCO.—CURING.

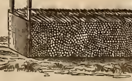
According to promise we conclude the article commenced last week on the Culture of Tobacco, and its value as a farm crop.

After wilting, draw to the house, which should be twenty-four feet wide, fifteen feet high, so as to have three tiers, one above the other. A building of this width and height, thirty-five feet long, will store an acre, or one tun of tobacco. The girts on the side of the building should be five feet apart; a row of posts through the middle is necessary to put girts in, to hold the poles that the plants are tied to. The best poles are made of basswood sawed one and one-half by four inches, and twelve feet long.



HANGING TOBACCO ON THE POLES.

The plants are handed to a man who, standing on a movable platform made by a light plank, receives them, and beginning at the top tier he winds a piece of prepared twine around the stalk, fastening the first plant to the pole; the second plant is placed on the other side of the pole, and a single turn is made around the stalk; then again the third stalk is put on the same side of the first, the twine passed around, and the next on the other side, and so on to the end of the pole, where the twine is made fast. About thirty or thirty-six are hung on a pole, one-half on each side. If this twine gives way, it is manifest that they will all be let loose. The poles are put on the girts



TOBACCO STACKED AFTER STRIPPING

about fourteen inches apart. In this way the whole building is filled. Skill is now demanded to regulate the ventilation until the crop is cured, which is determined by examining the stem in the leaf, which should be hard, up to the main stalk. Then in damp weather the tobacco can be taken down and laid in piles, with the tips together to keep it from drying, and to secure this, cover over with boards. The next thing is the removal of the leaves from the stalks, taking this time to separate the broken leaves from the unbroken ones. They are then made into parcels of 16 or 18, called "hands," and are fastened by winding a leaf around them. Pile these hands tips on tips, the square ends out. This preserves the moisture. The pile should be kept covered with boards, and the sides also covered, leaving the wood ends of the hands exposed to the air. If everything up to this point has been skillfully done, in four or five days the tobacco will be fit to pack in cases, and take to market. The cases should be of pine, two feet six inches square, by three feet eight inches, and of inch lumber. Place the hands tips on tips, and the wound ends against the ends of the box, press with a lever or screw until 400 pounds is in, then fasten on the top. The tobacco now goes through the sweating process, and will lose about ten per cent. in weight before fit for use.

This tobacco is known in the market as "seed leaf," and is principally used for wrappers for cigars; the refuse is exported. A crop handled in the manner described, and with skill, will sell in New York city at from twelve to fifteen cents a pound; but from want of proper care and skill, the crop of this county does not bring an average price of over eight cents.

Cost of Crop.

The plants are worth per acre	$2 50
Manure, 10 cords, say	20 00
Fitting ground and marking	4 50
Planting and setting	6 00
Cultivating and first hoeing	2 00
Cultivating and second hoeing	1 50
Topping, and killing worms, say	1 00
Suckering, first and second times	2 00
Suckering, third time	4 00
Harvesting and hanging (four men and team one day,)	6 00
Stripping one tun	10 00
Five packing boxes	6 00
Labor of packing	1 50
Twine, for hanging	1 00
	$66 00

A tun, at 13½ cents, is worth $270; deduct 10 per cent. for shrinkage, and 1¼ cents per pound for transportation and commission, in all $52, leaves $218 as net proceeds. The cost being taken from this, $66, and we have $152 for use of land and buildings.

This is the best statement that can fairly be made for this crop. If the price be put at the average our growers get, viz., eight cents per pound, we have for the crop, 1,800 pounds, after shrinking, $144. Deduct $66 for cost, and $22.50 for commissions and transportation, in all $88.50, which deducted from the amount received, leaves $55.50, as the ordinary profit per acre.

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EDUCATION FOR THE FARMER.

This subject has commanded the attention of many minds; it has occupied the columns of newspapers, the pages of books, and the valuable time of clubs, conversational meetings, and audiences at Fairs; yet it is a question still open for solution. I do not know that I can add anything to what has been said, but shall we maintain silence on a subject of such momentous importance, so vital to the interest of farmers, and of our country? Because the truths of Christianity were once set forth by our Savior, elucidated by the Apostles, and frequently preached to the people since that time, shall they be neglected now? The voice of the whole Christian world answers, "No,—let them be held up to our view continually,—let them be set forth distinctly,—let them be applied practically,—or we shall forget them. The tongue of man was given him to speak, his ears to hear, and his mind to perceive the truth. Let these faculties be exercised."

If it be of vital importance that truths so well known should be frequently enunciated to make them valuable to us, is it not also important that a subject affecting so directly the welfare of the farmer as much as education does, should be constantly talked about? We may be ready to acknowledge truth, but unless it be kept before our minds, other truths are impressed thereon, and we become occupied with them. If a just idea be set forth plainly, and urged upon our attention, we not only acknowledge its truth, but we are made ready to carry it into execution. From a want of interchange of thought, men become

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indifferent about intellectual matters, and at last lose faith in the potency of ideas.

This train of thought was awakened in my mind by the question of a young man of intelligence, who has labored steadily for some time on the farm. "What use can a farmer make of an education?" Does not education fit the farmer for the pursuit of his vocation? On further conversation, I discovered that he referred to that style of education fashionable in some High Schools and Colleges, which certainly does lead boys into habits diametrically opposed to the steady, quiet pursuit of the farmer, and the old query came up, how shall a boy be so educated that he shall "be a man for a' that?" Too many boys intended for the farm, learn at School or College, more about games, theatre going, smoking and drinking, than about those things calculated to aid him in his business. Education should not make the educated discontented, it should give them practical knowledge of their position in life, of the powers they possess, and the control they should have over their whole being. Nor should it train the faculties in such a manner as to enable them to *perceive a truth, but never put it in practice.* In short, learning the man to *work* as an animal, while he reads, writes, and talks like an educated, intellectual being. We cannot get away from the fact, that the education of surrounding circumstances has really more influence than the education of the school-room, and that the early impressions a boy receives concerning the business of life, will do more to determine his position than the intention or desires of parents.

The youth gets a notion that the professional man holds a more honorable position than the farmer,—has more leisure, lives better, and has better associates, and enjoys life better than the farmer; or, he becomes convinced that the exercise of his faculties will be better rewarded as a merchant, or manufacturer, where shrewdness seems to him to be more in demand than in agriculture; hence he is drifted into one or the other channel, as his fancy may dictate. I shall not argue that attractions do not exist in business or professions which have no foundation, for we all know that contact gives exercise to the faculties, polishes the man and furnishes a mental stimulus of a kind which cannot be obtained in the isolation of the farmer; but if the farmer receives such an education as will best fit him for the discharge of his business duties, he may here be on a level with any other business man, so far as his natural capacity will admit. Indeed, he needs to be able to compute values,—to determine the relation between labor and capital,—between raw and manufactured material,—to seek a market calculated to give him a remuneration for his efforts; and to do this he needs not only the knowledge of the mathematician, but to know the quality, origin, and value of the raw materials of earth and air from which he *makes* his crops, and finally his animals,—to know how to replace these when removed, and keep his manufactory well supplied with stock, his machines in good order, bringing out goods of first class, which must be properly dressed, stored, or packed for market. In no sphere is shrewdness more required,—in no business can ingenuity be better exercised.

Nor need the farmer be behind hand in intellectual matters of a different character. Books are plentiful and cheap, papers easily to be had, libraries abundant, lectures plentiful, and social intercourse much favored by ease of intercommunication by rail, steamboat, or private conveyance. In short, the same valuable means which exist to favor the city or village *business man, are at the command of the farmer,*—aye, he has more than they often have,—plenty of sunshine, pure air, and muscular exercise in the open day. None can deny that there are drawbacks to enjoyment, but much depends on the will of the farmer and his family, and this will is fashioned by his education; so that to begin at the root of the matter, the education of the farmer must be right. The impressions of early youth, which are to control the life, must be right.

In any business, if the man is merely a worker, a plodder, a copyist, his life is dull, uninteresting, and morose, as cold, selfish, and sordid as is the ignorant, slaving farmer. Let a man be the subject of his work, I care not what it is, you will find him a poor specimen of humanity. Education is intended to enlighten him,—not only to hand to him the deductions from the experience of the human race up to the time of his coming into existence, but to train his faculties so that he may be able to observe things as they are in nature,—their relations to each other and to himself,—also to show him that man being an intelligent animal, endowed with reason, should control, as subordinate, his passions, and direct his animal forces to useful ends. This style of education makes the man intelligent,—develops all his powers, and stamps him as a potent agent of goodness and usefulness in the world. Beyond this material education lies the field of morality and spirituality, or religion. No argument is needed to show that even the materialist may be made more successful, and lead a higher life, if he be educated in these things.

Are we not convinced of what the quality and essence of a farmer's education should be? Do we not plainly see what must be its direction? Can we as easily point out the means to be employed? Let us ponder, let us strive. Let us seize every suggestion of value, and rest not until the great problem of education for the farmer be solved.—H. C. V.

WORKING FOR WAGES—TAKING LAND.

TAKING a farm to work on shares seems to be considered the next best thing to owning one. Hiring out by the day, month or year, is accounted comparatively vulgar, and, with native Americans, is fast becoming obsolete. Judging from the frequency and urgency of inquiry one hears made for chances to work land on shares, it is to be supposed that applicants believe they see a decided advantage to themselves in applying their labor to land for a portion of the products, over what they would enjoy by working as hired laborers. The gain of the former method is counted in two ways,—greater personal independence and increased pecuniary profit.

Whatever may be said in favor of taking land, there are certain reasons why it is better for men of small capital to engage by the month or year at a fixed rate of wages. Those who have only their labor to invest in farming, or whose means are so limited that they cannot afford to run the risk of bad seasons or failures of crops from any cause, have a much safer, surer dependence in the equal, steady, moderate gains arising from selling their work at a fair price per month or year, than in the more capricious—sometimes larger, sometimes smaller—returns resulting from a division of the products of the farm. In the course of a long period of general agricultural prosperity, there comes occasionally a year of reverse, and, in these seasons of ill luck, the farmer often loses a large share of the value of his year's labor, and sometimes a considerable portion of the gains of former years. To those who depend for a support on a share of what they raise on other men's farms, such seasons are especially disastrous, while the hired laborer is not sensibly, if at all, affected by them. But the pecuniary loss to the farmer from an unusually cold, or wet, or dry, or frosty season, or injury by insects, or depressed markets, or whatever other hindrance, does not comprise the whole damage he sustains; the disheartening, discouraging influence he suffers in consequence of failure to realize all he expected from his labor is, many times, not the least important item of loss. Those who work their own farms are of course more independent, and can better bear to be disappointed of the looked-for gain; it will not be surprising if a turn of ill-luck should cause such as rent farms, or work them on shares, to suffer a considerable abatement of hope and energy.

Again, nothing contributes more to the formation of a habit of reckless, extravagant expenditure, than an irregular income. Those who know what their income is, know what they can afford to spend; and, if they have fixed rules of economy, and are determined to save a certain sum each year, they can regulate their expenses accordingly, and gradually, by moderate but sure and steady gains, accumulate for themselves a respectable little capital wherewith to engage in business on their own account. The agricultural laborer who works for an employer at a good price per month or year, can, if prudent and ordinarily fortunate, save a fourth, perhaps a third of his wages; if he have no one but himself to support, he can do better than that. And, knowing exactly or nearly what he is to receive, there is no difficulty in calculating what he can afford to spend. But it is not so easy to graduate one's expenses to a varying income. People who take farms are apt to think they can afford to indulge in a more liberal style of living than hired laborers, because they expect to get more for their work; and some years the returns of farming are such as to warrant the greater expenditure. But when it happens that the income is less than usual, it is not easy to at once contract expenses correspondingly; and so perhaps the earnings of the next year are anticipated to supply the deficiencies of the present. As the income of the hired laborer is subject to but slight fluctuations, so he has no temptation to increase, or necessity to contract his expenses; while he who takes land often falls into habits of expense which are perhaps excusable in prosperous times, but which make years of scarcity ruinous to him. A.

South Livonia, N. Y., 1861

ABOUT CHEESE-MAKING.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In looking over the columns of your paper, I notice an inquiry, by some young gentleman who, perhaps, is just about to enter into matrimonial responsibilities, wanting to know the process of making cheese. Cheese-making dates back to time immemorial, and the process of making has of course been exposed to improvements ever since it was first discovered, and comes down to us as follows:

1st, A good selection of cows is necessary. 2d, One of the best cheese vats must be had. 3d, Adjustable cheese hoops. 4th, A good press. Having procured these implements, we precede to the process of making cheese.

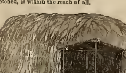
In the first place, we strain the night's milk into the milk vat, then pour cold water into the water vat, sufficient to abstract the animal heat from the milk. In the morning we skim the cream off the milk, and build a fire in the heater before we commence milking, then we strain in the morning's milk, and heat to from 85° to 90°, after which add rennet enough to coagulate the milk sufficiently to commence work in from 30 to 50 minutes. Now the curd should be broken up fine. For this purpose we use a curd knife, which we consider preferable to our hands. The breaking of the curd should be done with care. After the curd settles, an addition should be made to the fire, sufficient to raise the temperature of the whey to from 98° to 104°. It will be well, perhaps, to stir the curd while scalding. The curd being cooked, and the whey being drawn off, the curd will be ready for salting. It may be salted to your taste. Some say, as a rule, that 2½ pounds of salt should be mixed with 100 pounds of curd, but I think this hardly sufficient. Now the curd is ready for the press. It may be put into the hoop and be pressed lightly at first, but gradually increasing for twelve hours. It should then be turned, a bandage put around it, and again pressed for twelve hours more. It is now ready for curing. It should be turned and greased daily for a month, and colored as you like.

I might say more of interest, perhaps, but consider this the best and shortest mode of operation I have ever met with, and tried. STEPHEN THOMAS.

Scio, Alleg. Co., N. Y., 1861

CHEAP PROTECTION FOR ANIMALS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—We saw, recently, so cheap and efficient a means of protection for domestic animals, that we cannot refrain giving it to the readers of the practical in the RURAL NEW-YORKER. Protection is all important, and the how, as here sketched, is within the reach of all.



Here we present an engraving of the said shelter,—you see it is wind and almost frost-proof, and, after all, nothing but a straw-stack well piled over and around a cattle shed. The amount of suffering such a structure would save the prairie farmer's herds, we leave for his conjecture, premising that we are well satisfied with the operation of ours, of similar architecture, both for cattle and swine. W. H. G.

Amboy, Lee Co., Ill., 1861

As intimately connected with the foregoing, we give a brief article from a correspondent of the *Prairie Farmer*, on "Good Shelter for Stock." It is as follows:

Proportioned to the number of cattle, procure two pieces of scantling, (say 6 inches by 8—20 feet long.) With a two-inch auger bore a hole, a foot or eighteen inches from each end, and one in the middle. Then procure six posts, (either round or square,) 7 feet 6 inches long. Make round tenons suitable for the auger holes, and set the posts in the ground in a line east and west—three in front and the other three about eight feet in the rear of the first; put on the plates, and steady the posts by ramming the earth well around them. Lay rails or poles across the plates about a foot apart, over the entire frame. Now lay on corn stalks so as to form a ridge just midway between the plates, (18 inches high,) the entire length of the shelter, then begin to form the cover by laying on more stalks so that the shuck end shall lay on the ridge first made, till the entire length of the shelter has been gone over, putting the stalks first on the south side, and then on the north; now lay on another ridge lengthwise the shelter, over these; first put on the rails, and on this ridge put on a second cover of stalks, being careful to have them meet well on the ridge, the north side being finished up last that snow and rain may pass over.

Shelters of this kind are more readily put up than any kind I have ever tried, and form a secure protection from leaking rain or snow as there is little danger of the top being blown off by violent winds. For calves, sheep, or fattening hogs, shelters four or five feet would be abundantly high. Corn stalks put up in this way keep as nicely for provender as if carefully stored away in ricks for late use, and may be used for food, when shelters are no longer needed for the season.

THE RATS ON SECESSION.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In No. 5 of your present volume, I find an article taken from the *American Agriculturist*, on blowing up rat-holes with powder, to drive away the rats. Now, for one, I would like to have the plan *rat*-ified, or changed for something better. There are several ways to drive them off, but I am sure I would not be justifiable in driving them from my premises to those of my neighbors. They will be sure to go. There are some of my neighbors who drive them from their barns by taking a drum and beating on it a few evenings in succession; but they are sure to be a nuisance to some one. I will give my plan of destroying them by wholesale, which may be a benefit to some of my brother farmers. I make a hole in my granary, or whatever I wish to lead them into, of convenient size, with a slide that I can shut by fall, a string leading outside of the barn. I then bait them, and let them have free access a few nights. When I think they are about all in, I slip up and draw the slide, then I get SAM to hold a good strong bag over the hole, draw the slide, when a little thumping from the inside will soon have them all into the bag, where you can dispose of them as you see fit. If you do not get them all, try again. If any have a better plan, I would like to see the *rat*-ification in the RURAL. O. P. F.

Owego, Tioga Co., N. Y., 1861.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Pressing the Sorghum.

MR. H. G. BULKLEY, of Kalamazoo, Mich., states that by slightly steaming the cane of Sorghum before it is pressed, all the juice can be easily extracted with a common set of pressure rollers, which must greatly increase the production. As the pressing of this cane constituted the chief difficulty with farmers in obtaining syrup from it, this discovery is of great importance to them.

How to Make Water-Tight Ponds.

THE great Illinois stock farmer, Mr. STRAWN, gives in the *Prairie Farmer* his mode of making water-basins, as follows:—"After excavating the basin he fences it in, and uses it as a yard to feed his cattle and hogs in. The bottom thus becomes well puddled by the trampling of their feet, making it almost water-tight. He has basins thus prepared that have not been empty of water but once in 12 years."

Hard Crust Formed in Plowing.

IT is well known that when land has been plowed for many years at a uniform depth, a hard crust is formed at the bottom of the furrow. The *Country Gentleman* says:—"We lately had occasion to inspect a piece of ground that had been plowed and was soon flooded by a creek, and all the loose or plowed soil washed completely away, leaving this under crust untouched, and showing every mark and scratch of the plow as it passed over. The crust had been made so compact by the whole weight of the plow, and that of the turning sod superadded, that the flood made not the slightest impression upon it, although the soil was naturally quite uniform down to a depth of two or three feet."

Carrying the Whip.

THERE is more in the movements of the driver of an ox-team, and in carrying the whip, than most farmers think, says the *Ohio Farmer*. Oxen, however quick in their movements, or upright their walk in the yoke, soon become dull, and get the practice of "shoving" or "hauling," in consequence of the driver lagging along, or, as is often the practice, going ahead of his team, and from time to time stepping back and whipping them. A driver of an ox-team should walk directly opposite the yoke, walk straight, and carry his whip as upright as a soldier would his gun. Use a whip-stock with a short lash, and touch the cattle only with the lash, and never strike them on the nose or over the eyes."

Seed Corn—Early Germination.

THE Bureau Co., (Ill.,) *Republican* says that Dr. CHAMBERLIN of that county has been experimenting with seed corn, in the view of hastening germination, and has made several discoveries which are made public. The *Republican* says:

"Last year Dr. CHAMBERLIN of this place made some practical experiments, and demonstrated that nearly half the time may be saved in germinating the seed by the use of chloride of lime. Not satisfied with the success of last year, he is again experimenting. In his office he has four boxes; in the first is corn planted without soaking, and the seed not germinated; and in the second, the seed was soaked in warm water, which has just commenced to germinate; in the third is seed soaked in a solution of lime, and green blades are just peeping from the ground; in the fourth is seed soaked in a solution of chloride of lime and copperas, in equal parts, and the blades are now nearly three inches above the ground. All the seeds were planted at the same time, in the same quality of soil, and taken from the same ear. The boxes have all had an equal share of heat and light, neither allowed any advantage over the other.

"This experiment should attract the attention of farmers. We conclude from four to six weeks may be saved by the use of chloride of lime and copperas, which is a matter of no ordinary moment, when we reflect that a delay in the germination of the seed of two weeks, frequently places the crop within the reach of the frost in the fall. Another fact of some importance may also be mentioned. The copperas used in soaking will prevent the birds, squirrels, worms, &c., from eating the seed. Dr. CHAMBERLIN assures us that one pound of chloride of lime and one pound of copperas, in water, will soak enough seed for twenty acres. The cost will not be over twenty-five cents. Every farmer could afford to make the experiment, even if he should fail to derive any benefit from it."

Turning Stock to Grass Early.

A RECENT issue of the *American Farmer* has an article on this subject, from R. W. DOWNMAN, of Fauquier County, Virginia, given in response to a solicitation on the part of the Editor. We extract as follows:

Talking with graziers, I find the opinion to be general in this county, (which annually fattens for market upwards of twenty thousand beeves,) that the earlier cattle are turned to grass the better. When I commenced grazing, four years ago, I found this to be the general practice, and I followed it without making any experiment myself, but I am informed by one of my neighbors—Mr. Charles J. Stovin—who has grazed for thirty years past, on an average, two hundred head of cattle annually—that he has seen the experiment tried. Two lots of cattle, equal in all respects, and which had been wintered alike, were selected in the spring, and one lot turned to grass ten days earlier than the other. The first lot took a start of the other and maintained it through the season, being ready for market one month sooner than the second lot.

There can be no doubt whatever as to the fact that, in our county at least, the sooner we can get them to grass in the spring the better. The grass at that season is tender, and has the quality of purging the cattle, loosening their hides, and causing them to shed off. It thus prepares their systems to take on fat rapidly as soon as the pasturage becomes stronger and more mature. Later in the season it seems to lose this quality in a measure. I have known men to turn their cattle on their meadows for eight or ten days, early in the spring, so as to give them a start against the regular pasture becomes fit to turn on.

This is one of the finest grazing sections in the country. The land seems to be naturally adapted to grass, running into sod very quickly after a fallow. One of my neighbors—Mr. J. J. Hunton, of Woodstock—has a field of one hundred acres of greensward, upon which he fattens from eighty to ninety head of cattle every year; and in a good grass season I have seen portions of the field from which a good swath of grass might have been cut when the cattle were taken off in July. On the rest of his estate he fattens about two hundred head. On the adjoining estate of Airley, Mr. Charles J. Stovin fattens about two hundred and seventy-five head. He has a field of about one hundred and fifty acres, on which this spring he turned one hundred cattle and ninety sheep, and kept them there until the first of June, when a portion of them were moved off.

There are sods in this county nearly fifty years old, and so firm and strong that, to quote the language of our representative, the Hon. Wm. Smith, "a bullock of a thousand weight may walk over them after a week's rain without soiling his hoofs more than a lady would soil her delicate satin slipper by crossing a Turkey carpet." This may sound like hyperbole, but unto all that doubt, I say "come and see."

Inquiries and Answers.

FLEAS ON DOGS.—As you publish something in your spicy paper for "all the world, and the rest of mankind," also, will you tell me what to do to kill the fleas on my dog? He scratches at them good, yet they do not seem to mind it much. They do not seem to be much in favor of *secession*,—perhaps they do not know it is fashionable, and as they do not choose to go of their own accord, I would like to oust them.—PETE, *Dryden, N. Y.*, 1861

ENGLISH DAIRY CHEESE.—Will some of the RURAL's numerous readers give me the rules for making what is called English Dairy Cheese, and oblige—F. T. HASELTINE, *Mazomanie, Dane Co., Wis.*, 1861

In answer to the inquiry of Mr. HASELTINE, we cannot probably do better than give an article written on the subject by "P.," and published in our last volume. The writer passed a goodly portion of his time in the dairy region of this State last summer, and took much pains to learn all the "art and mystery" of cheese making. The method is as follows:

"This cheese is a single meal, or, in other words, the milk is *run up* or *set* directly from the cow, both night and morning, no artificial heat being used in any part of the process. The milk is colored to a butter color by anotto, rubbed down in milk and added before the rennet. The preparation of the rennet, and the quantity used, is the same as in other good dairies. The milk stands an hour after the rennet has been put in. The curd is then cut up in the usual way, and worked moderately as it begins to settle. The whey is gradually withdrawn, and as soon as it begins to harden, so as to hold together, it is put into a cloth and sink, and gently worked and pressed till the whey is well out. It is then broken up again, salted at the rate of an ounce of salt to three pounds of curd, and put into the hoop or vat, and moderate pressure put on. The hoops are 13 or 14 inches by 5 or 6 inches deep, but the cheese when pressed should not be over 4½ inches thick. The manipulations are much as in other dairies, except that when the cheese is turned the first and second times, it is well rubbed with salt, and stands in the press three days. In one dairy, instead of rubbing on the salt, after standing in the press for twelve hours, the cheese was put into a strong brine for twelve hours, taken out, wiped dry, and put back in the hoops or vat, and pressed two days longer. No grease is used upon the cheese, and they are cured in a cool, damp room, if possible. They get a very hard rind, are sent to market in bulk, about the 1st of November, and handle as safely as so many pieces of plank. They weigh, usually, when taken from the press, about 25 pounds, and when cured, 20 to 21 pounds. The cheese is expensive to make and handle, as compared with the larger and two meal cheese. It is, however, rich, mild, and easily cured, and much sought after in the cities, among the English population, in the same manner as the Limburgh cheese is the favorite kind with the Germans. Neither, however, have any superiority over some of our best American cheese that is well cured."

WARTS ON THE EYES OF HORSES.—I wish to inquire, through your valuable paper, of your numerous contributors, what will remove a wart from a horse's eye? I have a valuable horse that has a wart about half an inch from the corner of his eye, nearly as large as a quarter of a dollar, and it seems to be inclined to spread. If some one will tell me what will remove it, they will much oblige a subscriber.—W. W., *Tioga Co., N. Y.*, 1861

These excrescences, arising from the cuticular covering of the skin, are sometimes very annoying to horses, especially when occurring about the eye.

Treatment.—A wart having a broad base, Dr. DADD says, should be treated in the following manner: Take a common suture needle, and arm it with a double ligature; each ligature is to be composed of three threads of saddler's twine, well waxed; pass the needle right through the centre of the wart, close down to the skin; tie each half separately, with a *surgeon's knot*, as tight as possible; cut the ends off pretty close to the knot, and in the course of a short time the whole will drop off. A wart having a small circumscribed pedicle may be removed in the same way, by tying a *single* ligature round its base. If the exposed surfaces should not heal readily, moisten them occasionally with tincture of aloes and myrrh, and if they show a disposition to ulcerate, sprinkle them with powdered charcoal and bloodroot, equal parts.

TO GET RID OF SORREL.—I noticed an inquiry in the RURAL on this subject. I have found unleached ashes the most effectual for the purpose. Sow annually at the rate of two bushels per acre, for two or three years in succession, and the sorrel will entirely disappear.—J. M., *Hamilton, C. W.*

Rural Notes and Items.

A WORD TO RURALISTS.—Now that the political excitement is likely to subside, for want of proper nutriment, we not only look for a restoration of confidence, but a return to such habits of thought and action as will insure the increased prosperity of the People and Country. The agitation wanes at a favorable time for Ruralists, for the season of their greatest activity is approaching,—but whether the trouble ceases or not, it is alike the *duty* and *interest* of our friends to pursue their calling with industry and skill. For whoever is President or whatever party administers the Government, that avocation which feeds all and clothes all, must be intelligently and energetically pursued, as it is the real foundation of the sustenance and prosperity of both People and Nation. Every Producer is a Patriot—and there is at present great need of a demonstration of love of kindred and country on the Farm, and in the Shop and Factory. If the bar room and corner grocery political brawlers (self-elected statesmen)—as well as many party editors and speech makers—of all sections, were obliged to *go to work* in Garden, Field or Factory, the political troubles of the country would be forgotten in three months, and an era of unexampled peace and prosperity most successfully inaugurated. We think RURAL readers will concede thus much. Would that the political doctors might prescribe so safe a remedy, and their patients (which we cannot expect to reach,) take the medicine!

—A word, in this connection, about the Agricultural Press, which has not been greatly favored during the Presidential campaign and the late "troublous times." Though we have no special cause of complaint—this Journal having rode out the storm unharmed—we would suggest that the present is a good time to substitute Rural Newspapers for some of those which have so long been at the top of the wave. The Agricultural Press deserves well of the public, and we hold it to be the duty of the industrial, producing classes, to give it ardent support and encouragement—a substantial recognition of its general usefulness and earnest advocacy of the cause of Improvement in Agriculture and kindred Arts and Sciences.

WONDERFUL WISDOM AND BENEVOLENCE.—One W., of Yates Co., lectures us, condemns a correspondent, and proposes to benefit our readers vastly, (for a valuable consideration,) in this wise:

How many strange and foolish theories are started and palmed off upon your numerous readers for "valuable information" which are as worthless as the useless nostrums they recommend. It, perhaps, to a certain extent, may be laudable, but there are cases where ignorance is so glaring, and the consequences of following such directions are so preeminently dangerous, that I have sometimes thought the free admission to your columns of all sorts of articles, was not really disadvantageous to the farming interest. Of this character I cannot but regard the communication of J. H. SANBORN, in your issue of the 2d ult., on "Cribbing Horses." I have ascertained by experiment and practice that his theory is erroneous, and his practice brutal to the extreme, without in the least benefiting the animal which he treats. Now, I assume that it is a disease—not a habit, and being a disease, it can be cured by the application of the proper remedies. I can cure it, but am *in honor bound not to make a* public disclosure, but if any man will send me his horse, I will return him cured for $10, or for the same will instruct him so that he can apply it himself, and it is withal so simple and common sense that it is matter of surprise that our veterinarians have not seen it before. I will impart all the information requisite for a complete cure for the above sum, accompanied with a pledge of honor not to impart it to others without the same pledge, by addressing W., box —, ——, N. Y., enclosing the money. If the disease is not disclosed and the remedy not an effectual one, the money shall be returned.

That *is* refreshing. On reading the first sentence, thought we must at once engage the writer to edit the RURAL. The next, though less clear, made us feel bad for our readers, while the third induced us to pity the ignorance of J. H. S., as much as the fourth caused wonder at the profound wisdom of W. But the remark about a secret and sure remedy, and being "in honor bound not to make a public disclosure," with the *generous offer* to impart knowledge so valuable for the paltry trifle of ten dollars *and a pledge of honor, &c.*—together with the surprise expressed that our Veterinarians are all ignorant of the cure, (leaving the reader to infer that unless he invested an X at once, the great secret might be lost to the world,)—increased our admiration of W.'s profundity and benevolence. And on reading the conclusion—about sending $10 to an *anonymous address*, and the assurance that, if the remedy did not prove effectual, *the money would be refunded*—our emotions were inexpressible. But, seriously—though we have aforetime been favored with various communications attempting to advertise free gratis, the above is the greatest dodge of all. Of course we would not insert such a proposition in our advertising columns, as we reject all such matters, and if the writer really supposed it would be given, with the address, he must be a greater curiosity than the whole of Barnum's Museum—a marvel of assurance or verdancy. But the richest part of the whole is that the letter (which contained the name of the writer, though separate from the article, and marked *private*,) was not even post paid! The P. M. at the place where it was mailed, noticing the address, and being a friend of ours, kindly put on a stamp, and sent along the precious document!

FARMER'S CLUB OF LITTLE FALLS.—We are indebted to PHILO REED, Esq., Treasurer, for a pamphlet containing the annual address delivered at the Fair of this Club, on the 12th of October last, by Hon. L. CHANDLER BALL, also, the Annual Report of the Secretary and Treasurer. The address is an able one, and contains many valuable suggestions. The Reports of the officers are interesting, and show that the Club made considerable progress in advancing its objects during the year 1860. Permanent Fair Grounds were obtained and improved, and a successful exhibition held. The Club already has a library of 125 volumes, and holds frequent meetings for lectures, discussions, &c. It has a balance of about $80 in the treasury. The recent annual election resulted as follows: *President*—S. S. LANSING, Manheim. *Vice President*—A. Willcox, Little Falls. *Secretary*—X. A. Willard, Little Falls. *Cor. Secretary*—A. W. Eaton, Little Falls. *Treasurer*—P. Reed, Little Falls. *Directors*—R. D. Brown, W. M. Door, Asa Willcox, S. S. Whitman, A. Reed, W. A. Foster.

CARRINGTON'S DRAINING PLOW.—"A Subscriber," who inquires relative to "an implement for making underdrains without the use of tile or other material, by applying sufficient power to force it the required depth, and form an opening for the escape of water"—saying he has seen a notice of such an one from A. B. DICKINSON, in some paper—is informed that the article alluded to is, probably, Carrington's Drain Plow. It was illustrated and described, and also advertised, in the RURAL of March 31, 1860, to which we refer our correspondent and others, for particulars. The plow is strongly recommended by Mr. DICKINSON and other practical farmers.

WHERE ARE THE FAMOUS STALLIONS?—A correspondent writes from Erie Co., this State, wishing to know "where some of those horses—Patchen, Messenger, Toronto Chief, Bashaw, Jupiter, or Abdallah—will stand this coming spring." He adds that he has several mares, old and young, which it is desirable to try with full blood horses, if within reasonable distance and terms. Cannot answer, but presume the owners of some of the horses named will be likely to impart the information at proper time, through our advertising department. Neither can we yet say where a Spanish Jack is to be kept, about which the same correspondent inquires.

"JAPANESE WHEAT" A SPECIES OF MILLET.—We are indebted to JOHN HINES, P. M., Columbiana, Ohio, for a few grains of what was sent him, from St. Louis, in response to an order for Japanese Wheat. It is simply a variety of Millet—a small, round seed, resembling our wheat about as much as a turtle's egg does a goose egg. It is evidently an unmitigated humbug—and probably the same article sold at St. Louis a year or two ago under the name of Hungarian Grass!

FINE WOOL.—We are in receipt of a very excellent sample of Spanish Merino wool, from the flock of Mr. M. S. ABELL, of Orwell, Vt. An Orleans Co. (N. Y.) correspondent informs us that Mr. A. has been engaged in breeding sheep and growing fine wool for a number of years, and has sent a number of bucks to that county, the stock of which has proved to be decidedly fine. The sample of wool before us is certainly of superior quality.

READER, if you wish to DO GOOD and receive GOOD PAY therefor, read what is printed under head of "The Publisher to the Public," on page 83,—not omitting the offer of Extra Gifts for Clubs formed before April. As the period of competition is limited, early action is important. The times are improving; form new clubs and thus secure valuable prizes.

HORTICULTURAL.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

IN previous numbers we have given general rules to be observed in planting seeds, and also pointed out some errors to be avoided. We purpose in this and future numbers to give directions somewhat more specific for the management of the Flower Garden. What we say will no doubt seem very common-place to gardeners and amateurs of experience, but such must remember that our object is the general good, the dissemination of knowledge and taste among the masses of the people in whose souls the Author of Beauty has implanted an innate love of the beautiful, which needs only to be watered to be awakened into life and activity. The flowers of the field, all the glories of inanimate nature, were made for our enjoyment and profit, and He who created them gave us natures capable of receiving from their contemplation the most sublime pleasure, and the highest good. We all feel this yearning for the beautiful. Few pass a well-kept garden, with its velvety grass and flowering shrubs, or its beds of gay flowers, but are impelled by this principle of their natures to slacken their speed, or pause for a moment to do homage at Flora's shrine. Often such will say—"Could I have such a garden, or even a few choice flowers, how delighted I would be;" and yet, perhaps, they have all the means necessary for just such a display, or one even greater. To these, we know our plain practical hints will be of more value than a lengthy essay, or fine descriptions of new and rare productions.

The best soil for the garden is a mellow loam, but almost any fair soil can be made suitable by *draining*, *deep digging*, and *enriching* with good stable manure, or compost made of stable manure, leaves, sandy loam, &c. If the soil is heavy, sand and ashes may be applied with advantage. The compost or manure, if well mixed with the soil, will mellow it, and work a decided change in its texture in a few years. The thorough preparation of the soil is a very important matter; in fact, the foundation of all good culture, and must not be slighted. We would recommend that the ground should be dug eighteen inches deep for the first time, but afterwards for two years the depth of a spade or fork will answer, when it should be again dug eighteen inches, or it would be better for a depth of two feet. With each digging, manure should be worked in. This may be considered troublesome, when compared with the labor farmers ordinarily give their land; but it must be remembered that in the garden everything must be grown in the highest perfection. In a quarter of an acre of vegetable garden, we should grow as much as the farmer obtains from ten times this amount of land, while, if we would obtain flowers such as are described in gardening journals, or are figured in colored plates, we must give them the very best of fare. This is the reason why some persons are sorely disappointed. They read descriptions of choice things, and purchase the seeds or the plants at a high price, but they are not what they were led to expect. The description is of flowers well grown; they have given no more care than they would to a cabbage or a hill of corn. Hence the difference.

For the front of the house, there is nothing so appropriate and beautiful as well-kept grass, with a few flowering shrubs, and if large enough, evergreen trees and others that only attain a small size, like the Mountain Ash. If the grounds are large enough, the lawn may extend around the sides of the house. Without great labor it is almost impossible to make flower beds look well at all times. Early in the spring, for instance, the ground is bare and uninviting, and remains so for a long time. But, grass becomes green and pleasant in a few days after the snow is gone, and in fact never looks bad, while the evergreens give a lively appearance at all seasons of the year. In April or May the leaves of the deciduous shrubs appear, and with them, and in some varieties even before the leaves, the gay blossoms are seen, and from this until July, no day will pass without flowers. Every day some new shrub puts on its holiday dress, and is the center of attraction for days or weeks, when it gives place to another candidate for admiration.

In *making the lawn*, thoroughness is particularly necessary, for we do this for a permanent work. Any error or neglect in this respect cannot be remedied without destroying what we have done and commencing anew. The soil for a lawn should be dug two feet deep, if we wish it to make good turf and keep tolerably green during our warm summers, and it should be well enriched with rotted manure. Be careful and not use fresh manure full of the seeds of weeds, or it will cause trouble. In the first place stake out what walks you need to the front door, &c., and make as *few as possible*. Don't cut up the grass with unnecessary walks, but make them of a good width, and of a graceful curve. Straight walks should be avoided if possible, but in small places this cannot always be done. If you cannot make a curved walk without having it apparent that you took great pains to avoid a straight walk, then make it straight. Dig out the soil from the walks to a depth of from twelve to eighteen inches, and use the earth thus obtained in filling up low places. Then dig the ground intended for the lawn to the depth stated, rake off the stones and throw in the walks. If enough is not obtained in this way, procure stones in some other way sufficient to fill the walk to within about four inches of the surface. Plant shrubs and trees, and when this is done, rake the lawn ground level and smooth. Edge the walks with a narrow piece of turf, taking care not to place it higher than the surface of the lawn. Then sow thickly Kentucky Blue Grass or Red Top, or both mixed, at the rate of about three or four bushels to the acre. After this is done, sow a little white clover, at the rate of about half a pound to the acre, or more. Then rake all in. Now level off the stones in the walk, making the top pretty level with stones of smaller size, and cover with about four inches of gravel. Make the road full. It should not be more than half an inch below the turf at the edges, and raised toward the center, which will make the walk rounding. The work is now done. It is best to prepare and sow the lawn as early as possible in the spring, so that the grass seeds will have the benefit of spring showers. If the weeds appear pretty thick, it is best to weed them out by hand, particularly docks and other perennial weeds, but annual weeds can be prevented from maturing seed by mowing, and of course none will appear next season. If the ground is in good order and sown early, by June the grass will look quite well, and the second season will be in fine order. It should be mown occasionally during the first summer. The walks, when constructed as described, may be kept in order with little trouble, and will be perfectly dry. Sometimes a little grass will spring up along the edges, but this can be destroyed by a sprinkling of dry salt, though occasionally it is well to use the hoe and remove any earth that may have washed from the ground upon the gravel. This should be replaced with gravel.

We have not time to give a list of the most desirable shrubs for the lawn, but will do so next week, together with directions for making borders, &c.

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DETERIORATION OF FRUIT TREES.

THE causes of the deterioration of tree fruits are, the excessive cropping of the orchards by grain-growing farmers with but a scanty supply of manures, which robs the surface soil of the fertilizing elements obtained from the manures, the atmosphere and the rains and snows, that give thrift to the trees and mellowness to their fruits. The trees being thus deprived of such food to incorporate in their system with harsher matter taken up by the descending roots from the subsoil, become diseased, and are unable to sustain the great number of branches formed when in a young and thrifty state of growth. The matter taken up by the descending roots from the subsoil gives strength and solidity to the trees, and acidity to their fruits, while the surface soil gives luxuriance to the trees, and mellowness, sweetness and flavor to their fruits. A union of these gives thrift and longevity to the trees and improves the quality of fruit produced. So much are skillful gardeners impressed with the truth of this, that they cut off part of the tap roots of seedling trees when they transplant them, so as to make them send forth lateral roots in different directions, to gather more nutriment than the tap roots could furnish. They thus enlarge the quantity and increase the fertility of the surface soil by deep digging, trenching and manuring, so as to keep up the equilibrium of the two matters for the benefit of both the trees and their fruit. Trees so treated are products of nature and art. Good gardeners do not plant trees with their roots above the ground, but with their collar on a level with the surface. They first examine the surface and subsoil, and then plant just such trees as will thrive there. When the subsoil is largely charged with ferruginous matter, it immediately gives trees the canker and "dry rot," and no power upon earth can save them when they touch it.

Pruning.—Farmers do not prune their fruit trees to remove too great a crop, nor do they scrape off the moss and rough bark to save the trees from becoming "bark bound," nor wash them with solutions to ward off insects and "sun stroke," and so their fruits dwindle into insignificance. As well may they expect their Alderney, Durham and Ayrshire cows to continue in their superiority over other breeds and keep free from "hide bound," "hollow horn and scurvy," if fed upon straw only, in winter, and without cleaning and currying, and on poor, weedy pastures in summer, without a tree to shade or to rub themselves against,—as to expect their fruit trees to flourish and yield abundant crops of large and mellow fruits when deprived of an essential part of their subsistence and proper care. Some farmers keep their orchards too many years under sod, which deprives the trees of culture; the grass takes up all the ammonia and other fertilizing elements from the surface soil, and all the air the soil obtains is by worm holes; the roots are smothered, the tree gets diseased, and their fruits become worthless.

The Causes of the scarcity of Fruits are deterioration and ruin of old orchards by neglect. Fruit trees have not been planted in a corresponding ratio with the increase of our population; the losses caused by the death of many trees after planting, owing to the unprepared state of the soil, an improper method of planting and cropping the lands close to the trees immediately after they are planted; the many disappointments caused by planting varieties unsuited to certain soils and localities, and many turning out to be spurious varieties; the want of a proper knowledge of the nature of trees by farmers, and the ravages of insects by the destruction of insectivorous birds; the plundering of orchards by crowds of Sabbath-breakers around cities, towns and villages; the extravagant prices of grain and dairy produce at times, stimulating farmers to their exclusive production, and blinding them to the importance of fruit culture, as they thus get a yearly return for their labor. When farmers' minds become as strongly imbued with the importance of fruit tree culture as they are now with politics, then the country will be studded with flourishing and profitable orchards.

How is such a change to be effected? It may be effected by imparting information to farmers in a plain and sociable style as to the best way to produce tree fruits profitably. Tell them how to renovate a neglected orchard, and how to prepare the soil for a young orchard; how and when to plant the trees, and how to treat them when planted; what varieties are best suited for different soils, and localities. Nurserymen, never sell a tree under a false name, nor injure the roots in digging it. And you, gentlemen, who by patient perseverance and scientific skill originate new varieties, publish only the truth as to their merits. Councilmen of cities, pass enactments for all kinds of fruits to be sold under their proper names. There was such a law in Albany, N. Y., twenty-four years ago, and the citizens generally interested themselves about it, and procured fruits with their proper names from different places, gave them to the market clerks to compare with fruits sold, and all who could not name their fruits had them named for them. This brought hosts of fruit dealers from New York city to purchase the fruits by name, and created such a stimulus to fruit culture that thousands of farmers planted out orchards at once.

I say to every farmer in the land, plant out young orchards, or renovate your old ones. They will make you rich, the country rich, and exalt the national character. We have quadrupled our production of grain within the last quarter of a century; let us now turn our attention to the culture of tree fruits, and we will soon be enabled to export as much of them as we do now of grain, and when you are old and leaning upon your staff, your descendants will flock around you to get a feast of fruits from the parental orchard.—WALTER ELDER, *Philadelphia, Pa.*

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Horticultural Notes.

THE PEACH BUDS.—We have continued our observations in regard to the condition of the peach buds, and find them injured, in Western New York, more than at first we were disposed to believe. There may be a few saved near the lake shore, or in close proximity to some of our inland lakes, and in a few favored localities, but the crop is gone.

The following, from a well known and careful fruit grower, is important and rather startling:

EDS. RURAL:—From an examination made on my grounds of the buds of fruits, for the purpose of determining the prospect for fruits the coming season, I am pretty fully of the opinion that *Isabella Grapes*, as well as *Peaches*, have suffered the same fatal effects from frost, on the memorable *Thursday night*. Few of the old varieties of grapes, except the Clinton, standing in exposed places, but have suffered severely in this locality and but very little fruit may be expected from the Isabella except from buds closely connected with the old vine. The above announcement, I am well aware, will be received with some hesitation and much regret, but so far as my examination of the fruit buds is concerned, I am constrained to admit the fact.—H. N. LANGWORTHY *Greece, near Rochester, March*, 1861

TO SAVE TREES FROM MICE, &c.—To prevent mice or other vermin from eating the bark of trees, take, in the fall, soil from the privy vault, and thin it with water. Then take a broom and give your trees a good washing, which will not only keep the mice from eating the bark, but will do considerable benefit to the trees by taking off all the moss and rust, and leaving the bark clear and clean when washed off by rain in the spring. If the gases be too strong for the nostrils, do not lose the benefit on that account. Take wood charcoal for a deodorizer. It certainly is a true saying, that prevention is better than cure, and there is another saying equally true, that the cure is sometimes worse than the disease. Tarring trees will prevent mice from eating the bark, but it stops up the pores of the bark, which stunts the tree in growth, and lays the foundation of premature decay. This has always been the result from my experience.—ROBERT DOUGLAS, *Cortland Co., N. Y.*, 1861.

BEWARE OF POISONOUS MUSHROOMS.—At a recent coroner's inquest at Ipswich, England, the jury gave verdict of "Death caused by eating poisonous mushrooms," and recommended that great caution be exercised by persons eating this article. Dr. A. S. Taylor, in his work on Medical Jurisprudence, says "there does not appear to be any satisfactory rules for distinguishing the wholesome mushrooms from those which are poisonous, and in some persons even edible mushrooms will produce disorder of the stomach and bowels." The English Gardener's Chronicle, alluding to the above case, remarks that not only is it difficult to distinguish the wholesome from the poisonous mushrooms, but there are other families of plants, a portion of which may be eaten with impunity, while others are injurious, as, for instance, the Brazilian Cherry, and the Deadly Nightshade, both of which belong to the Solanaceæ, or potato family.

SOLANUM CAPSICASTRUM.—This is a neat little plant, chiefly valuable for producing in abundance its pretty little fruit in autumn and winter. The berries are bright scarlet, glossy and round, about the size of a cherry. It requires similar treatment to the capsicum. Sow the seeds in a hot-bed in March, or in the house in April. Prick off the seedlings singly and plant in a large pot, when necessary. Rich sandy loam will suit it well. In the autumn it will be covered with its bright scarlet berries.

APOLOGETIC.—In consequence of the pressure upon our columns of important political news—which all are anxious to read in the present crisis of the country—we are compelled to resign a portion of the space devoted to Horticultural matter. This will account for the non-appearance of several matters prepared for this number, for which our friends may be looking.

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Inquiries and Answers.

GROWING CRANBERRIES.—By reading an article in the last volume of the RURAL, by E. STANTON, of Bay City, Mich., I was induced to get a few cranberry plants to try my luck in that line. I went thirty miles into Canada, into a wild marsh, and got about two hundred plants, and set them out about the first week in May. I had to keep the hoe pretty busy to keep the weeds down, but some of my vines grew three feet in length last summer, and in the fall I picked thirty well grown berries from the vines. I planted last May. Has any any beat that? If so, let us hear from them. I wish to hear from some experienced hand how long and what time of the season the water may remain on the ground to make it beneficial to the plants, and should the ground be kept clear of grass the whole time it is kept for the purpose of cranberries; or will the plants keep themselves right after a while? Please answer, and oblige a new beginner in the cranberry culture.—ABRAHAM WITMER, *Suspension Bridge, N. Y.*, 1861.

We have had no extensive experience in cranberry culture, though we have done a little in this way. When the plants get pretty thorough possession of the ground, they are said to overcome the weeds without help. New plantations require a good deal of labor to keep them clean. We do not believe it necessary to flood cranberries, but if it is done, the spring of the year is the best time. Where spring frosts are common, they are flooded to protect the blossoms.

"I HAVE a piece of swampy land, of about half an acre in extent, and wish to turn it to profitable account. How will it answer to set it with cranberries, as it can be easily flooded in winter? How shall I cultivate them? When is it best to set the plants—in spring or fall? As the piece of land is on the front of my farm, I wish to ornament it as much as possible by setting Balsam Fir about the outside. Will the plants do well where there is shade?—A SUBSCRIBER, *Ayr, C. W.*, 1861.

Some of our readers have had much more experience with the cranberry than we have, and we leave this question with them. We have always planted in the spring. There is no difficulty in transplanting. No plant roots more freely than the cranberry.

FLOWER FOR NAME.—I inclose you a flower and some leaves, and will be thankful if you will favor me with information regarding its name, how and where it can be obtained, and whether the flower belongs to the moss-like leaves I send with it? There are two other colors, white and pink, and being a great admirer of flowers, would like to obtain some of this kind, but am entirely ignorant of its name and nature, or whether I must obtain the seed or the roots. Please enlighten me.—MRS. E. G. S., *East Randolph, N. Y.*

The flower sent us is a *Gnaphalium*, and the leaves supposed to belong to it are branches of a common moss. We judge both were taken from a winter bouquet, and if not made in France, the flowers probably came from that country. Their natural color is white, but the French stain them of various colors, and make them up with grass and moss, into wreaths, bouquets, &c. We have a native *Gnaphalium* growing on our commons and by the road-sides. The *Gnaphalium* is a perennial plant, and was kept for sale by nurserymen, but now we have much better everlasting flowers, and it is not cultivated to any extent. Among the best of these is the *Globe Amaranth*, of various colors; the *Helichrysum*, of several varieties; *Acroclinium roseum*, and *Xeranthemum*. All these are of easy culture, and make beautiful winter ornaments, especially in connection with some of the ornamental grasses.

BARREN PLUM TREE.—I do not wish to trouble you with inquiries, but as you always seem willing to answer them for the benefit of your readers, I will make a few for the first time. Can a barren plum tree be made to bear fruit? If so, what kind of treatment would it require? Would the liberal use of the pruning-knife be of any benefit? We have a fine tree which is about six years of age, but it has never yet borne a single plum. It appears to be a healthy one in every respect.—YOUNG SUBSCRIBER.

If your tree is in a rich soil, and making a vigorous growth of wood, pruning the roots might induce fruitfulness. Pruning the branches in June, when in full leaf, would be very likely also to induce the formation of fruit buds. It is not best, however, to be in too great a hurry for a little fruit. If you have planted a good tree of a fine variety, the delay in fruiting will doubtless be to the advantage of the tree, and in the end to your own profit.

WILLOW FOR HEDGES.—A subscriber wishes to know whether Osier Willow will make good hedging for field fences, and if so, where can the willows be got? Will the willow grow from cuttings? If so, what time must they be cut, and how planted? Is the bunch willow, that grows along streams, Osier?—E. H. N., *N. Y.*

Some of the basket willows, or Osiers, may make a good fence if properly cut back; but their chief value for basket-making is their tall, slender growth, which would be an objection for hedge-making. The common yellow willow, we believe, is the one used at the West. Cuttings of willow, stuck in the ground in the spring of the year, will grow.

CAMBRIDGE BOTANIC GARDEN GRAPE.—Can you inform me as to the quality and habits of the *Cambridge Botanic Garden Grape*, whether it is hardy or not, or will ripen on the south side of a wall? One was sent as a present to me, and I am at a loss where to place it, or whether it is a No. 1 grape.—SUBSCRIBER, *Glen Cove.*

The *Cambridge Botanic Garden Grape* is a foreign variety, and is generally known as the *Black Prince*. It is much disposed to shank, and its culture in the open ground, we think, would be labor lost.

THE ENGLISH WALNUT, &c.—Can you, or any of your numerous subscribers, give me any information or experience in regard to grafting the shell bark, or hickory nut? Also, whether the English walnut is too tender for this climate?—S. FORSHAY, *Penn Yan, N. Y.*, 1861.

The English walnut is a little tender in this latitude when young, and the ends of the shoots are injured in the winter. If the tree makes a very rapid succulent growth, it sometimes suffers rather severely. As it grows older, it becomes more hardy. There is a dwarf variety that bears very early, and is the most suitable for gardens, called Dwarf Prolific.

Political Intelligence.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S INAUGURAL.

Fellow Citizens of the United States:

In compliance with a custom as old as the Government itself, I appear before you to address you briefly, and I take in your presence the oath prescribed by the Constitution of the United States to be taken by the President before he enters on the execution of his office.

I do not consider it necessary at present for me to discuss those matters of administration about which there is no special anxiety. Apprehension seems to exist among the people of the Southern States that by the accession of a Republican administration, their property and peace and permanent security are to be endangered. There has never been any reasonable cause for such apprehension. Indeed, the most ample evidence to the contrary has all the while existed and been open to their inspection. It is found in nearly all the published speeches of him who now addresses you. I do but quote from one of those speeches when I declare that I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so. Those who nominated and elected me, did so with a full knowledge that I have made this and many similar declarations, and have never recanted them, and more than this, they placed in the platform for my acceptance, and as a law for themselves and to me, the clear and emphatic resolutions which I now read:

"Resolved, That the maintenance, inviolate, of the rights of the States, and especially the right of each State to order and control its own domestic institutions, according to its own judgment exclusively, is essential to that balance of power on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric depend, and we denounce the lawless invasion, by armed force, of the soil of any State or Territory, no matter under what pretext, as the gravest of crimes."

I now reiterate these sentiments, and in doing so I only press upon the public attention the most conclusive evidence of which the case is susceptible, that the property, peace and security of no section are to be in any wise endangered by the now incoming Administration. I add, too, that all the protection which, consistently with the Constitution and the laws, can be given, will be cheerfully given to all the States when lawfully demanded, for whatever cause,—as cheerfully to one section as to another.

There is much controversy about the delivering up of fugitives from service or labor. The clause I now read is as plainly written in the Constitution as any other of its provisions:

"No person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom service or labor may be due."

It is scarcely questioned that this provision was intended by those who made it for the reclaiming of what we call fugitive slaves, and the intention of the law given, is the law. All members of Congress swear their support to the whole Constitution, to this provision as much as any other. To the proposition, then, that slaves whose cases come within the terms of this clause, "shall be delivered up," their oaths are unanimous.

Now, if they would make the effort in good temper, could they not, with nearly equal unanimity, frame and pass a law by means of which to keep good that unanimous oath? There is some difference of opinion whether this clause should be enforced by National or State authorities. But surely that distinction is not a very material one. If the slave be surrendered, it can be of little consequence to him or to others by which authority it be done, and should any one, in any case, be content that this oath shall go unkept on a merely unsubstantial controversy as to how it should be kept?

Again, in any law upon the subject, ought not all the safeguards of liberty known in civilized and humane jurisprudence to be introduced, so that a free man be not in any case surrendered as a slave? And might it not be well at the same time to provide by law for the enforcement of that clause of the Constitution which guarantees that "the citizens of each State shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States."

I take the official oath to-day with no mental reservations, and with no purpose to construe the Constitution or laws by any hypercritical rules, and while I do not choose now to specify particular acts of Congress as proper to be enforced, I do suggest that it will be much safer for all, both in official and private stations, to conform to and abide by all those acts which stand unrepealed, than to violate any of them, trusting to find impunity in having them held to be unconstitutional.

It is seventy-two years since the first inauguration of a President under our national constitution. During that period fifteen different and greatly distinguished citizens have in succession administered the executive branch of the government. They have conducted it through every peril, and generally with great success. Yet, with all this scope for precedent, I now enter upon the same task for the brief constitutional term of four years, under great and peculiar difficulties.

A disruption of the Federal Union, heretofore only menaced, is now formidably attempted. I hold that in contemplation of universal law and of the Constitution, the Union of these States is perpetual. Perpetuity is implied, if not expressed, in the fundamental law of all national governments. It is safe to assert that no government ever had a provision in its organic laws for its own termination. Continue to execute all the express provisions of our national Constitution, and the Union will endure forever, it being impossible to destroy it, except by some action not provided for in the instrument itself.

Again, if the United States be not a Government proper, but an association of States in the nature of a contract merely, can it as a contract be peaceably unmade by less than all the parties who made it? One party to a contract may violate, break it, so to speak, but does it not require all to lawfully rescind it? Descending from these general principles, we find the proposition that, by legal contemplation, the Union is perpetual, confirmed by the history of the Union itself.

The Union is much older than the Constitution. It was formed in fact by the articles of association in 1774. It was matured and continued in the Declaration of Independence in 1776. It was further matured, and the faith of all the then thirteen States expressly plighted and engaged that it should be perpetual, by the articles of confederation in 1778, and finally, in 1787, one of the declared objects for ordaining and establishing the Constitution was to form a more perfect Union. But if the destruction of the Union by one, or a part only, of the States be lawfully possible, the Union is less than before, the Constitution having lost the vital element of perpetuity.

It follows from these views that no State upon its own mere motion can lawfully get out of the Union, that resolves or ordinances to that effect are legally void, and that acts of violence within any State or States against the authority of the United States are insurrectionary and revolutionary according to circumstances. I, therefore, consider that, in view of the Constitution and the laws, the Union is not broken, and, to the extent of my ability, I shall take care, as the Constitution itself expressly enjoins upon me, that the laws of the Union be faithfully executed in all the States. Doing this, I deem it to be only a simple duty on my part. I shall perfectly perform it so far as is practicable, unless my rightful masters, the American people, shall withhold the requisite authority, or in some authoritative manner direct the contrary.

I trust this will not be regarded as a menace, but only as the declared purpose of the Union that it will constitutionally defend and maintain itself. In doing this there need be no bloodshed or violence, and there shall be none unless it is forced upon the national authority.

The power confided to me will be used to hold, occupy and possess the property and places belonging to the Government, and collect the duties and imposts; but beyond what may be necessary for these objects, there will be no invasion, no using of force against or among the people anywhere.

When hostility to the United States shall be so great and so universal as to prevent competent resident citizens from holding the Federal offices, there will be no attempt to force obnoxious strangers among the people that object, while strict legal right may exist for the Government to enforce the exercise of these offices. The attempt to do so would be so irritating, and so nearly impracticable withal, that I deem it better to forego, for the time, the uses of such offices.

The mails, unless molested, will continue to be furnished to all parts of the Union. So far as possible the people everywhere shall have that sense of perfect security which is most favorable to calm thought and reflection. The course here indicated will be followed, unless current events and experience shall show a modification or change to be proper, and in every case and exigency my best discretion will be exercised, according to the circumstances actually existing, and with a view and a hope of a peaceful solution of national troubles, and the restoration of fraternal sympathies and affections.

That there are persons in one section or another who seek to destroy the Union at all events, and are glad of any pretext to do it, I will neither affirm nor deny. But if there be such, I need address no word to them. To those, however, who really love the Union, may I not speak before entering upon so grave a matter as the destruction of our national fabric with all its benefits, its memories, and its hopes?

Would it not be well to ascertain why we do it? Will you hazard so desperate a step, while any portion of the ills you fly from have no real existence? Will you, while the certain ills you fly to are greater than all the real ones you can form? Will you risk the commission of so fearful a mistake? All profess to be content in the Union if all constitutional rights can be maintained. Is it true, then, that any right plainly written in the Constitution has been denied? I think not. Happily the human mind is so constituted that no party can reach to the audacity of doing this. Think if you can of a single instance in which a plainly written provision of the Constitution has ever been denied.

If, by the mere force of numbers, a majority should deprive a minority of any clearly written Constitutional right, it might, in a moral point of view, justify revolution,—it certainly would if such right were a vital one,—but such is not our case. All the vital rights of minorities and of individuals are so plainly assured to them by affirmations and negations, guarantees and prohibitions, in the Constitution, that controversies never arise concerning them; but no organic law can ever be found with a provision specifically applicable to every question which may occur in practical administration,—no foresight can anticipate, nor any document of reasonable length contain express provisions for all possible questions.

Shall fugitives from labor be surrendered by National or State authorities? The Constitution does not expressly say. Must Congress protect Slavery in the Territories? The Constitution does not expressly say. From questions of this class spring all our Constitutional controversies, and we divide upon them into majorities and minorities. If the minority will not acquiesce, the majority must, or the Government must cease. There is no alternative for continuing the Government but acquiescence on the one side or the other. If a minority in such a case will secede rather than acquiesce, they make a precedent, which, in turn, will ruin and divide them, for a minority of their own will secede from them whoever a majority require to be controlled by such a minority. For instance, why won't any portion of a new confederacy a year or two hence arbitrarily secede again precisely as portions of the present Union claim to secede from it? All who cherish disunion sentiments are now being educated to the exact temper of doing this. Is there such a perfect identity of interest among the States to compose a new Union as to produce harmony only and prevent renewed secession?

Plainly the central idea of secession is the essence of anarchy. A majority held in restraint by constitutional check and limitation, and always changing easily with deliberate changes of popular opinions and sentiments, is the only true sovereign of a free people. Whoever rejects it does of necessity fly to anarchy or despotism. Unanimity is impossible.—The rule of a minority, as a permanent arrangement, is wholly inadmissable, so that rejecting the majority principle, anarchy or despotism in some form or other is all that is left.

I do not forget the position assumed by some, that constitutional questions are to be decided by the Supreme Court, nor do I deny that such decisions must be binding in every case upon parties to a suit as to the object of that suit. While they are also entitled to very high respect and consideration in all parallel cases by all other departments of the Government; and while it is obviously possible that such decision may be erroneous in any given case, still the evil effects following it being limited to that particular case, with the chance that it may be overruled, and never become a precedent for other cases, can better be borne than could the evils of a different practice. At the same time the candid citizen must confess that if the policy of the government upon a vital question, affecting the whole people, is to be irrevocably fixed by decisions of the Supreme Court, the instant they are made, in ordinary litigations between parties in personal actions, the people will have ceased to be their own, unless having to that extent practically resigned their government into the hands of that deservedly eminent tribunal. Nor is there in this view any assault upon the Court or the Judges. It is a duty, from which they may not shrink, to decide cases properly brought before them, and it is no fault of theirs if others seek to turn their decisions to political purposes.

One section of our country believes slavery is right and ought to be extended; while the other believes it is wrong and ought not to be extended. This is the only substantial dispute. The fugitive slave clause of the Constitution, and the law for the suppression of the foreign slave trade, are each as well enforced, perhaps, as any law can be in a community where the moral sense of the people imperfectly supports the law itself. The great body of the people abide by every legal obligation, in both cases, and a few break over in each. This, I think, cannot be perfectly cured, and it would be worse in both cases after the separation of the sections than before. The foreign slave trade, now imperfectly suppressed, would be ultimately revived without restriction in one section, while fugitive slaves, now only partially surrendered, would not be surrendered at all by the other.

Physically speaking, we cannot separate. We cannot remove our respective sections from each other, nor build an impassable wall between them. A husband and wife may be divided, divorced, and go out from the presence and beyond the reach of each other, but the different portions of our country cannot do this. They cannot but remain face to face, and intercourse, either amicable or hostile, must continue between them. Is it possible, then, to make that intercourse more advantageous, or more satisfactory, after separation than before? Can aliens make treaties easier than friends can make laws? Can treaties be more faithfully enforced between aliens than laws can among friends? Suppose you go to war. You cannot fight always; and whenever, with much loss on both sides, and no gain on either, you cease fighting, then the identical questions as to terms of intercourse are again upon you. This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing government, they can exercise their constitutional right of amending, or their revolutionary right to dismember or overthrow it.

I cannot be ignorant of the fact that many worthy and patriotic citizens are desirous of having the National Constitution amended. While I make no recommendation of amendment, and fully recognize the full authority of the people over the whole subject, to be exercised in either of the modes prescribed in the instrument itself, I should, under existing circumstances, favor rather than oppose a fair opportunity being afforded the people to act upon it. I will venture to add that to me the Convention mode seems preferable, in that it leaves amendments to originate with the people themselves, instead of only permitting them to take or reject propositions originated by others not especially chosen for the purpose, and which might not precisely suit, as they would wish others to accept or refuse.

I understand a proposed amendment to the Constitution—which amendment, however, I have not seen—has passed Congress, to the effect that the Federal Government shall never interfere with the domestic institutions of States, including that of persons held to service. To avoid misconstruction of what I have said, I depart from my purpose not to speak of particular amendments, so far as to say that holding such a provision as implied constitutional law, I have no objection to its being made express and irrevocable.

The Chief Magistrate derives all his authority from the people, and they have conferred none upon him to fix the terms for the separation of the States. The

[Concluded on page 82.]

Ladies' Department.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

BURIED HOPES.

BY MARGARET ELLIOTT.

Weep for the buried hopes!
Silently one by one,
Slipping away from the tightening clasp
Of hands that held them with eager grasp,
Fading, as fades the blessed light,
Into the gloomy shades of night,
They died; and the grave of the "Might have been"
Holdeth them all its walls within.

Weep for the buried hopes!
Ask, "Will they ever rise?
Dawns there an resurrection morn
On the bright hopes faded, and perished, and gone?
Do we part with them now forever and aye?
The friends we have loved we shall meet in the sky,
But the thoughts we have cherished, the heart's strong desires,
Will they greet us again when this earth expires?"

Weep for the buried hopes!
But ask not their coming again!
'Tis better, far better, to say they are gone;
They are faded and fled, they will never return.
'Tis better to sink in a dumb despair
Than to watch and to offer the empty prayer
Earth offers no balm to the weary breast
Bereft of all hope, but God giveth rest.

Gainesville, N. Y., 1861.

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[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

THE BEAUTIFUL.

God has given us ten thousand aids to worship Him. Everywhere has He scattered tokens of His love, power, and beauty, as suggestive influences to draw our souls out and upward toward Him, the Source of all excellence and beauty. There is also implanted within our hearts a deathless principle of love and admiration for beauty and excellence, modified, it is true, by constitutional traits and educational bias, yet ever a living principle in the heart of all.

How richly is this element of our being ministered unto! The whole earth is a temple of beauty; and to the christian who has a mind to perceive, and a heart to feel, it is also a temple of worship. The ocean is an anthem, winds the prelude, flowing waters, whispering breezes, and birds of song fill up the symphonies. And when these breezes come whispering to us from the wild pine woods, how sweet and solemn the music which is wafted to us from their lofty spires! I never listen to its sound without a thrill of hushed delight, and a glad spring of adoration to God. I have sometimes thought that even angels might pause in their flight, and listen with holy joy to this ceaseless song of praise, which nature sends back to God. Poets have sung the praise of old ocean in strains beautiful and sublime as itself; but in all its power and might, where do we find aught so irresistibly grand as the words of Isaiah, in reference to creative power, "who hath measured out the waters in the hollow of His hand"?

The Alps, gemmed with a brilliant coronet of snow and ice, and robed in clouds of purple and roseate hue, stand in their eternal vastness and solitude, impressive emblems of power and praise—unequaled in grandeur, save in the magnificent panorama of the boreal regions, with their glacial fields and unknown seas. Shadowy and silent are these polar circles, save when nature speaks, grand, thrillingly awful, yet so clothed in wondrous beauty — so pure, spiritual, God-like, and ever and anon *lighted up* by blushing auroras, like the smiles of attendant angels. Who that has read the lamented Kane's sketches, with the intense and thrilling interest they so richly inspire, has not felt his conceptions of God clearer, and in the heart a new sense of adoring love?

Flowers, too, spring up in our pathway everywhere, like sweet messengers of mercy, and never are they so precious and beautiful as when culled by the hand of sorrowing affection for the graves of the loved and lost. What unutterable tenderness and love thrills the heart of the christian mother, wife, or sister, as she gathers these fragrant and beautiful creations of our Father's hand, and offers them, as the incense of her deathless love, to the angelic spirits of her cherished dead! Precious and beautiful link of communion between our heart's purest love and sorrows and the spirits of the departed.

All do not feel the power of beauty alike. To some, sublimity is the principal element; while another will forget the grandeur of Niagara itself, in admiration of the exquisite flower that grows upon its banks. Others, again, think only of beauty as manifested to the senses in the grosser forms of fashionable life, developed in female charms, grace, and elegance of dress, or the polished and dignified carriage of manly perfections.

Infancy and childhood, in its fairest forms, is, perhaps, the most beautiful example of perfect grace and loveliness given us from heaven. Miss Martineau says, "a babe in a household is a well-spring of joy." It is also an ever springing fountain of pure and holy feelings, allied closely to the love and purity of heaven.

Wo be to the hearts whose obtuse or cold nature shuts in their souls from an appreciation of the beautiful. It is the most blessed and powerful aid we possess by nature, in our aspirations after immortality. Yet Satan takes advantage of this principle, as of many others, and by perversion leads us into errors that prove snares to the feet, so as to retard or stumble the unwary. He would have us so enchanted with the beautiful here, that our eyes should never look beyond the present hour. Fashionable elegancies, amusements beautified and polished by nature and art, blended with pleasure and the graceful enchantments of beauty, are all fascinations by which he would enchain the soul to earth. Even wise men and philosophers, both ancient and modern, have been so satisfied with the excellence and beauty they discovered in the earth, as to worship Nature, rather than look onward to the source of all perfection and beauty. Even our best domestic affections are used as weapons to keep us from positive duties. He would tie our hands with the cares of life, and magnifying the really holy and imperative duties of home, to the almost entire exclusion of the outer world; he would thus dry up our sympathies, and foster selfishness rather than love in our hearts. Again, cheerfulness is a positive christian duty. The hope, genial flow of spirits, and joyousness of childhood and youth, are beautiful and innocent,—a source of light and happiness in the home circle and general society. Yet even here, in this fair field of our legitimate pleasures, he mingles tares with our wheat. Hence, the levity and trifling we too often see filling up the hours of social converse, to the almost entire exclusion of those higher themes, that if rightly understood and loved, would conduce so greatly to the developement of cultivated taste, and high moral and intellectual culture. The young christian is often led to the indulgence of this habit, under the false plea that it does no harm. Is there not harm in that which robs the soul of any portion of true cultivation and refinement, and which is so unfavorable to the spirit of devotion?

Christ, our teacher and ensample, was a perfect model of christian dignity and graceful courteousness of manner; yet blended with severe simplicity, a stern adherence to right and rebuke of wrong, all beautifully tempered with cheerfulness and love. Always accessible, kind and social, he never stooped to any approach to levity. If we are of this spirit, we will not forget that refinement and propriety of language and manner is becoming to those who seek a pure and spiritual life beyond this, where all our faculties and affections will expand under the full and perfect influence of the good and beautiful.

Buffalo, N. Y., 1861. MRS. F. A. DICK.

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WOMAN AND HOME.

There is a bundle of delights bound up in the sweet word *home*. The word is typical of comfort, love, sympathy, and all the other qualities that constitute the delights of social life. Were the every-day enjoyments of many pious, intelligent, and affectionate families of our country faithfully portrayed, they would exceed, in moral heroism, interest, and romance, most of the productions of the pen of fiction. The social well-being of society rests on our homes, and what are the foundation stones of our homes, but woman's care and devotion.

The man that battles for his country's altars and her fires, must go forth from a domestic sanctuary that is made bright and beautiful by woman's sympathy and self-denying interest. The chilling air of selfishness and neglect in the home circle is as destructive as autumnal frosts to noble impulses and philanthropic efforts.

A good mother is worth an army of acquaintances, and a true-hearted, noble-minded sister, is more precious than the "dear five hundred friends." The love we experience for domestic blessings, increases our faith, is an infinite goodness, and it is a foretaste of a better world to come. Our homes are the support of the government and the church, and all the associations and organizations that give blessings and vitality to social existence are herein originated and fostered.

Those who have played round the same door step, basked in the same mother's smile, in whose veins the same blood flows, are bound by a sacred tie that can never be broken. Distance may separate, quarrels may occur, but those that have a capacity to love anything must have at times a bubbling up of fond recollections, and a yearning after the joys of bygone days. Every woman has a mission on earth. Be she of high or low degree — in single blessedness or double — she is recreant to her duty, if she sits with folded hands and empty head and heart, and frowns on all claims to her benevolence, or efforts for the welfare of others. There is "something to do" for every one — a household to put in order, a child to attend to, some parent to care for, some class of unfortunate, degraded, or homeless humanity to befriend. "To whom much is given, of them much will be required." That soul is poor, indeed, that leaves the world without having exerted an influence that will be felt for good after she has passed away.

There is little beauty in the lives of those women who are drawn into the gay circles of fashionable life, whose arena is public display, whose nursery is their prison. At home, does woman appear in her true glory; in the inner sanctuary of home life, can she be most like those who walk above "in soft white light," and follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth.—*Journal and Messenger.*

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A MOTHER'S LOVE.

Many a mother lives whose gray hairs have no beauty in the eyes of her children, and claim no reverence from those for whose welfare she would cheerfully pour out her heart's blood. Many a mother's love is repaid by unkindness and ingratitude. Many an hour of wearisome toil and patient watching meets no other recompense than deeds the knowledge of which wrings her faithful heart with anguish. Yet through all the misfortunes, even through the dishonor of her children, her love knows no variableness. Her sympathy is given, though unsought; it is not forced upon the attention, but its soothing power is felt. In the silent night watches, her tears flow for them unbidden, and her voice goes up in supplication that He who never slumbers will watch over and comfort them. In their presence her heart is never weary of planning, her hand of executing sweet offices of affection; and in their absence the arms of her love are around them, and the incense of her prayers in their behalf rises continually before the Eternal One. A mother's love!

There is none
In all this cold and hollow world, no fount
Of deep, strong, deathless love, save that within
A mother's heart.

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How to be Handsome.—It is perfectly natural for all women to be handsome. If they are not so, the fault lies in their birth, or in their training, or in both. We would, therefore, respectfully remind mothers that in Poland, a period of childhood is recognized. There, girls do not jump from infancy to womanhood. They are not sent from the cradle directly to the drawing-room, to dress, sit still, and look pretty. During childhood, which extends through a period of several years, they are plainly and loosely dressed, and allowed to run, romp, and play in the open air. They take sunshine as does the flower. They are not loaded down, girded about, and oppressed in every way, with countless frills and superabundant flounces, so as to be admired for their much clothing. Plain, simple food, free and varied exercise, and good mental culture during the whole period of childhood, are the secrets of beauty in after life.

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Home Life.—Even as the sunbeam is composed of millions of minute rays, the home light must be constituted of little tendernesses, kindly looks, sweet laughter, gentle words, loving counsels. It must not be like the torch-blaze of unnatural excitement, which is easily quenched; but like the serene, chastened light which burns as safely in the dry east wind as in the stillest atmosphere. Let each bear the other's burden the while; let each cultivate the mutual confidence which is a gift capable of increase and improvement; and soon it will be found that kindliness will spring up on every side, displacing constitutional unsuitability, want of mutual knowledge, even as we have seen sweet violets and primroses dispelling the gloom of the gray sea-rocks.

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Failings.—The finest composition of human nature, as well as the finest china, may have flaws in it, though the pattern may be of the highest value.

Choice Miscellany.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

THE GULF STREAM.

BY MRS. A. L. MORTON.

There is a mighty river sweeping
From where the tropic skies bend o'er the sea,
On, on, forever on, its course still keeping,
Tireless as time — a wondrous mystery.

And never is its swift, warm current failing,
When mightiest streams move sluggishly and slow,
When melting snows their channels broad are filling,
Its banks it ne'er was known to overflow.

Upon the borders of that stately river
No city rears its domes — no turrets gray
Frown o'er its waves — the din of trade and labor
Reaches not there — the sound of childhood's play.

Not through green banks where summer flowers are blooming
Above its waves, where trees their shadows throw,
From 'mid whose boughs joyous bird notes are blending,
And timing to the water's measured flow

No, through the fierce Atlantic's whelming surges,
Steadfast and calm its swift, warm waters pass;
Through banks of serried waves its course it urges,
Sublimely grand, unheeding Ocean's power.

Sounded may be thy fame, "Father of Waters;"
To the "Fair Rhine" may raptured thousands throng,
By Arno roam — where dwell Italia's daughters —
Or for the classic Tiber raise a song,

By Ganges' sacred stream may pilgrims wander;
Stand where dark Danube's waves are rolling free;
By the broad Nile, on Egypt's mysteries ponder,
I'll sing of thee, strange river of the sea.

A type sublime thou seemest, Ocean river,
In thy proud grandeur sweeping through the sea,
Of the unswerving Will — the high Endeavor —
That through the sea of Life holds on its way

Careless alike, if Power blames or praises,
Where Duty's voice is heard, quick to obey,
That fearless, through life's dark, bewildering mazes,
Steadfast, and *strong in right*, pursues its way

Northville, Mich., 1861.

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[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

PENCILINGS.

Life's Problem.—The brief winter day is fading, and here I sit by the window, thinking,—thinking,—till my brain is weary. The problem of life! Shall it be forever unsolved? Am I in my lot and place in the great Creator's plan? In discharging the duties immediately around me, am I meeting my obligations, or do I linger on the outskirts while the work planned out for me is yet untouched? O, to live in vain! To have inscribed upon the final page of life's record, *Failed.* Father above, look from Thy Throne and let the answer be deeply graven upon my soul, "What wilt thou have me to do?" Ah, my heart, looking up to the Holy One, is there no shrinking from duty, no hiding thine eyes from where God's finger pointeth? Thou hast asked for thy life-work, but went there not up with that petition the wish that it might lie in some field of thine own choosing? Thou sayest, let me do good to my fellow men; it would be beautiful to cast sunlight around some darkened pathway, to make music where discord reigns, and to plant the flowers of friendship in hitherto barren soils. Dreamer, canst thou offer the chalice of friendship to the unattractive, the desolate, and the forsaken. The light thou kindlest upon his way may never reflect upon thine, but beamings from heaven shall shine around thee, and life's mysterious problem shall begin to grow plain. Perform the duties nearest thee, faithfully and well. They may be more eventful than any which distance gilds. Are thy days dark,—does gloom press with leaden weight upon thy heart? Toil on,—thou shalt soon reach the sunny side of the hill. When trouble comes, do not lie down and let her trample thee in the dust, but rise up and face her dread presence. If there is no bright side, look upon that which is the least dark. Dissolve at once and forever all partnership with Despondency, and take Hope and Trust for thy bosom friends. Every victory gained over Despair and Inaction, is molding thy character toward perfection. Here is thy life work; thou hast conflicts to wage with self, with wrong and error. Strive on, and sigh not for another's gift or lot; success in thine own sphere is the noblest object of thy ambition and shall one day result in a glorious reward.

"Not each of the chapless voyagers
On life's mysterious main
Hath laid down his burden of sorrows
Who hath lived and loved in vain."

Dreamland.—It is very bright and beautiful, filled with sunlight and music. Its landscapes are lovely, its skies bright, and not a note of discord is heard in all its sunny realm. Fancy often beckons us thither, when, wearied in life's toilsome valley we fold for a moment our hands to rest. She opens the bright gateway, and in we glide. Instantly our feet are lifted from the dusty pathway of common life and placed upon the sun-gilded mountains which looked so hopelessly distant in the dull world of reality. Fame meets us in the way and crowns us with her garland. The productions of genius lie in rich profusion all around us. Dreamland is the favorite resort of the gifted ones of earth. Milton wrote *Paradise Lost*, but what was that in comparison to the glorious song to which he listened when Fancy led him awhile into Dreamland. The sculptor in his studio creates lovely forms around him, but let him close his eyes to chisel and marble, and far lovelier visions will rise before him. Weary months and years of toil might not suffice to transfer those bright imaginings to marble. The painter charms with his actual creations of beauty; but who that has never been to Dreamland could suppose that far lovelier scenes pictured themselves to his mind's eye whenever he looked in at the sunny windows of that gorgeous realm. O, it is a glorious world; its resources are without limit, and each one may find in it a little realm of his own, where he is the "bright particular star." Troops of friends surround him, and each thought and wish is an achievement. But when we recross its shining threshold, how dark and forbidding does this dull working world become! The brightness and music have gone; and when we ask whither to seek the scepter of conquest and the crown of victory, they point us to the steep and rugged path of endeavor. M. O.

Butler, Wis., 1861.

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We suffer for the offences of our progenitors; our descendants will suffer for ours. The self-justifying ancestor may asseverate that his surfeits of viands and wines, and his indulgences in narcotics, do him no harm; but three generations afterward, delirium and gout will shriek out their denials in his great-grand-children.—*Horace Mann.*

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Every man complains of his memory, but no man complains of his judgment.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

PARENTAL INSTRUCTION.

How interwoven with the hearts, thoughts, and destinies of millions of the human race, are the precepts inculcated in early youth. The heart is then capable of being fashioned, as the potter molds his clay; and as the child is then taught to love the good and eschew the evil, or the contrary, so, generally, will be their paths through life. It is impossible to fathom the intricacies of the heart, its susceptibility to enduring impressions, or note with what delicacy is traced thereon those innumerable traits which distinguish the characters of mankind. Nor can we always know what simple and apparently harmless things, or incidents, may bias the mind contrary to what we would desire. Parental precepts and examples have a great influence upon the characters of children, and if correct principles are early instilled in the mind, time can never wholly efface them, even if they forsake the paths of virtue.

Parents, then, cannot be too careful in every thing that relates to their children, or in any of the duties and responsibilities devolving upon them. They should act consistently at all times, and then will their instructions be deeply implanted in the heart. But the slightest deviation from truth and justice will generally be detected, and shake, in a moment, the foundation upon which you wished to build the superstructure. Nothing can be more pernicious in its effects upon the minds of children, than to teach by precept what is not taught by example. Confidence, the basis of families, societies, and nations, is destroyed, and cannot easily be regained. Mistrust finds a secure retreat where it had never before been able to penetrate, and once there the eradication will be most difficult.

Nor should either parent take the part of the child, when corrected by the other in a proper manner. This is sometimes done, but such a parent can have no idea of the injury thus committed, or having once done so it would never be repeated. In such cases the child, if not always shielded from punishment, has the effect of it nullified by the false sympathy exhibited, so that it is of no benefit. Such a household is divided against itself, and upon the children the effect is ruinous. They will fear and hate the one, and despise the other; thus between them, all moral restraint is lost. Neither should they be punished too severely, and never when in a passion. As you seek the benefit of the child, you correct him from love for him, and when angry, even if you do not overstep the bounds of prudence, it will not be as beneficial as it otherwise would. In this progressive age, the difficulty seems to be that they are not corrected at all, or in such a manner that it does little good. If you speak to a child to reprove him, and he answers cutely, it will not do to smile approvingly and let it pass. He will soon learn to mock at all reproof, and despise good instruction, and consequently he becomes rude and uncivil on all occasions.

Children should be taught to be obedient, to respect the aged, and deport themselves properly, but herein they have been and are still retrograding. And this is an age, too, of which so much is boasted concerning inventions and discoveries, and the social and moral advancement, as well as the general diffusion of knowledge among mankind, compared with former periods. That this should be the case, under such circumstances, cannot be otherwise than humiliating, and I hope parents will do all in their power to prevent further progress in that direction. C. A. F.

South Gilboa, N. Y., 1861.

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WINTER IN THE COUNTRY.

* * * * All this time you have been toying with your toilet, and now that it is finished, you take a more prospective view of the outer world. You live in the country, of course; and you see your cattle in their cheerful or cheerless precincts (but perhaps they maintain the stoical mein and stand all weathers,) patient beneath projecting eaves of snow on their foretops, chewing the stray wisps of hay which had almost effected a thorough retreat under cover of night and the snow. Then you see the haystacks in the field beyond, all a-glisten like domestic Alp or Appenine with the sunrise on their summits; and lo, the gate-posts have put on a weird human air in their grotesque head-dress. The kitchen-maid here appears with a bucket and tries to find the well. The curb it seems to have been the especial care of the Snow-Whim (for this wild spirit of the drift needs an apotheosis into capitalization and personality,) to barricade, for around it the white banks are heaped up highest. At length the sweep goes up and a new snow-storm drifts in the breeze and sunrise like innumerable white doves about Sallie's glowing face, as the bucket goes down.

Jingle, jingle, jingle. Here's a sleigh. Your enterprising friend and neighbor, Roberts, pioneers the merry cavalcade that before the day is gone shall make music wherever they go, with cloaks and shawls, and furs, and blankets, and buffalo skins, and warm hearts, and bright eyes, and song, and shout, and laugh, and happiness, and love, and sleigh-bells. Now you have just thought, by some unexplainable suggestion, of Sir John Franklin and snow-shoes, and Esquimaux, and white bears, those terrible ghosts that haunt the North, and reindeer and ice-bergs, and fields of ice; and you marvel if American enthusiasm will not bore through a North-west passage, and whether the Ice-King will fold his ermine silence and majesty about him forever and never abdicate his throne at the North Pole, and—

Your breakfast bell rings. Your wife puts her arm in yours at the bottom of the stair. Ah, where summer blooms all the years in two loving hearts, what if on the brow of both *it snowed?* The sweet soul ("the dear girl" you *will* call her,) whose "sphere" has been your smile, only, and her childrens' happiness for many a year, has been up and down, busy with home, for two hours, and how rosy your childrens' faces look, as with glad appetites they sit around you and you see the beautiful Aurora streaming up over the snow of your age from the dream of your childhood that has stolen away into their bright eyes and bird-nest hearts.

"It snowed, papa!" says Bennie—with his lips like blossoms, and his blue eyes five years old. But he doesn't mean that you are growin gold.—*Prentice.*

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Love of Children.—"I love God and little children," says a German writer; as if there were some connection between the two, as there certainly is. And the late Washington Irving, in a notice of the poet Campbell, speaks of the love of children as "an infallible sign of a gentle and amiable nature." It was so emphatically in him. And when he came to die, no fairer chaplet was laid upon his bier, than was placed there by the little boy who said, in allusion to the double loss he had sustained, "I have lost two of my best friends — my little brother and Washington Irving."—*Child at Home.*

Sabbath Musings.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

UNREST.

'Tis ever with us; we are ever seeking for some unknown good,
Ever reaching forward to the future, while oft with thankless,
Unrepentant hearts, we take repiningly our daily gifts,
Murmuring that but a moiety of Heaven's blessings should
Be our portion. And even when we murmur at our fate,
A wiser One than we, who sees our need of chastening,
Draweth near, and on our sad, weak, erring hearts,
Layeth some burden, grievous to be borne, that thus,
By trial, as the gold is purified, we too may come forth
Brighter, purer, holier, our faith made clear, our love renewed.

Oft do we grope blindly in God's own glorious sunlight;
Shutting our hearts to Nature's harmonies. We alone,
Of all her works, are careless, thankless, and discordant.
O, can we gaze and meditate on all around, above us,
And not feel a thrill of rapture? Can we still walk willfully
In very weakness, far apart from God, with not a single
Offering of thanks, a prayer, a humble prayer of grateful praise
Arising from the inmost soul? And yet, with proud,
Aye, e'en *defiant* hearts, we stumble on, thinking ourselves
Sufficient for ourselves, spurning the light, and scorning
The control of Power Almighty, — raging because His mysteries
Cannot be understood by such as we

Look abroad upon the various scenes that life is teeming with,
And say if, with a single item of humanity, thou wouldst
Exchange thy lot. Each heart its sorrows hath; each heart its joys,
For every smile there comes a tear of woe; for every joy a sorrow
Is in store, for every bliss a pain; and when the heart is lightest,
Then dark clouds are hovering, ready to envelop it.
Wisdom infinite allots to all earth's sons as seemeth best of
Good and evil. Joy may not predominate, lest we, reveling
In the gifts, forget the Giver. Sorrow may not reign,
Only sufficient here to us is given that we may see how vain,
How weak, how trifling all these earthly scenes, and, knowing this,
May learn to prize the rest that cometh to earth's weary ones,
Within our Father's mansions. And who shall say it is not
Ordered best? Who dare to question these, His wise designs?

'Tis not for such as we to murmur at His plans,
And, with weak, powerless hands, to mark out for ourselves
The path that we would walk in. Therefore, brothers, sisters,
Let us, with humble, loving care, place incense on the altars of
Our hearts, which shall arise, in prayer and praise, up to
The Great White Throne. Trusting the many precious promises
Which unto us are given; walking in blindness if he willeth so,
And knowing what He wishes us to know; believing, too,
That when life's pilgrimage is o'er, these mysteries shall be
All revealed; and these blind eyes, which God will then unclose,
Shall see that He hath best ordained it so.

Cleveland, N. Y., 1861. CLARA.

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[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

GOING HOME.

First, I looked upon the face of a dead girl, in whose living form was enshrined all that is pure and lovely. She was a very marvel of truth and beauty, such beauty as the artist loves to gaze on, and as he drinks in the divine meaning, feels himself nearer God; but while he gazes, turns away in despair at his own creations,—sees them grow dimmer and dimmer, until at last they almost fade from the sight, and he feels that no Rembrandt dyes can vie with that life's rosy current, tinging the cheek in shades that come and go as the sun's setting beams play upon the cloud; that none but the Great Master can chisel a thing so fair. But now she sleeps, and the beating pulse keeps pace no more with life's tuneful measures. The angels have borne her home.

Next, I gazed upon the pale brow of a youth stretched upon his bier, who had but just tasted his first draughts of Fame,—and they were sweet, oh how sweet. He had grasped what to him was evermore a charmed cup, and he could not lose the deeper draughts. They had already given his eye a more radiant lustre, set ambition's signet upon his brow, and upon his lips a firm resolve. Yes, he would be Fame's forever. But ere he had drained the cup to its dregs, and mingled the bitter with the sweet, our Father called, and he, too, went home.

Another, in the ghastliness of death, was one in full maturity of womanhood, the watchword of whose life had been "Onward." She had wrought her tasks deep and well, and hers was a destiny that charmed the world. They said, too, that her heart was as great as her intellect; but now the wreaths of laurel that had bound her brow lay withered and dead. She had passed to a land that is always sunny and beautiful, with Amaranthine bowers, where no death-chills penetrate, and laurels are green forever.

There a hero of many battles lay confined with his martial cloak around him, and by his side his trusty sword, as much prized as if it had been Damascene. He had fought for his country and a name. Long years before he had dreamed that "it was much to be a warrior, more a conqueror," and his dreams had lived. To him the charm of life was found only in the flash of serried steel, — and the last word that died upon his lips was "victory." But death was the conqueror, and the veteran sleeps with his fathers. Such is life.

"What shadows we are,
What shadows we pursue."

Rochester, N. Y., 1861. M. V. T.

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Two Ways of Preaching.—A young minister once, in a sermon addressed to a fashionable audience, attacked their pride and extravagance as seen in their dresses, ribbons, ruffles, jewels, &c. In the evening, talking with the old minister for whom he had preached, "Father D.," said he, "why do you not preach against the pride and vanity of this people for dressing so extravagantly?" "Ah! my son," said Father D., "while you are trimming off the top and branches of the tree, I am endeavoring *to cut it up by the roots*, and then the whole top dies of itself."

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Breadth of Religion.—Religion should influence its professor in all the relations of life. Whatever he does, he should do it better for being a Christian. Religion should make one a better student, a better servant, a better master, a better parent, a better child, a better man in all respects. The pious but eccentric Rowland Hill, remarked, "That he would not give a farthing for that man's religion whose cat and dog were not the better for it."

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Sensuality.—The wicked and sensual part of the world are only concerned to find scope and room enough to wallow in; if they can but have it, whence they have it, troubles not their thoughts; saying grace is no part of their meal; they feed and grovel like swine under an oak, filling themselves with the must, but never so much as looking up either to the boughs that bore, or the hands that shook it down.—*South.*

The Educator.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

It is a fact now acknowledged by all who are acquainted with educational matters at the present day, that the schools of our cities and large towns are superior to those in the rural districts. Many of the reasons for this difference are, by no means, chargeable to teachers, and will, in time, we trust, be removed; in the meantime, let teachers do all in their power to elevate the schools with the facilities at hand, and wait patiently for the "good time coming." The schools of towns and cities are larger, and admit of a more thorough classification, thus affording the great advantage of *class exercises*, where mind stimulates mind, teachers are less frequently changed, and are generally more experienced than in country schools.

It cannot be expected that the rural districts will possess all the appliances necessary for giving an advanced course of instruction at present, if it would be desirable at any time; but there is no good reason why, in all the *rudimental* course,— which is the most important of all,— our country schools should be inferior to those of large towns.

The great want of all our schools is, that of *trained teachers*. The doctrine which holds that any person possessing proper intellectual and moral qualifications is prepared to instruct the young, is false,—just as false as it is to suppose a person qualified to enter upon the practice of medicine, because he can furnish evidence of a tolerable knowledge of Human Physiology, when, at the same time, he is, perhaps, almost entirely ignorant of the laws of Hygiene, and knows nothing at all of Therapeutics. That such *immediate* evil may not result from the former, as from the latter practice, is readily granted, but that the *final* result is less pernicious, can hardly be denied.

This want of training several States have aimed to meet in the establishment of Normal Schools. These schools aim to be *professional*, and all young persons, before entering upon the profession of teaching, should, if possible, avail themselves of the advantages there offered for the study of the Science of Education and the Art of Teaching, especially the latter, *for teaching is an art.*

For those who cannot avail themselves of these advantages, and those who may wish to teach only for a short time, the want should be met as fully as possible, in the establishment of Institutes, sufficiently frequent, and of sufficient duration to admit of several weeks' training under experienced teachers. In these exercises, the *pupil teachers* might be called upon to conduct the recitations, at which the members of the class could so play their part, (if any *playing* should appear necessary in the way of dullness,) as to call forth all the power and tact of the practicing teacher, in elucidating and teaching a subject; thus disciplining and preparing each other for the future duties.

With a band of teachers thus drilled, good and attractive schoolhouses, and with a reasonable attention from parents, under the supervision of officers qualified to conduct these Institutes, and to counsel and instruct the teachers, our country schools would soon rival those which, in the efficiency of their instruction, are considered the best in the world.

Palmyra, N. Y., 1861. M. HOLLISTER.

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SCHOOL MATTERS OF NEW YORK.

In our issue of February 16th we gave condensations of such portions of the State Superintendent's Report to the Legislature as our space permitted, and now publish those matters of general interest which the condition of our columns compelled us to omit at that period:

SCHOOL FINANCES.— The Superintendent presents the following summary of the financial reports of the public schools for the year ending Sept. 30, 1860:

Receipts.	Cities.	Rur. Dist.
Balance on hand, Oct. 1, 1859	$ 399,062 06	$ 70,464 37
Amount received of State Apportionment	378,560 92	941,344 92
Proceeds of Gospel and School Lands	473 64	18,017 50
Amount raised by district taxes	1,471,344 58	544,071 29
Amount raised by rate bills		420,257 98
Amount received from all other sources	18,916 80	28,362 63
	$2,268,557 06	$2,032,118 69
		2,268,557 06
		$4,300,675 75
Payments.		
For teachers' wages	$1,118,073 14	$1,479,886 24
For libraries	6,846 04	27,189 83
For school apparatus	75,449 71	6,073 58
For colored schools	29,985 28	4,137 65
For expenses of school houses, viz: sites, building, hiring, purchasing, repairing, and insuring; fences, outhouses, furniture, &c.	361,321 86	280,068 93
For all other incidental expenses	203,453 63	163,956 04
Amount on hand, Oct. 1, 1860	477,422 40	70,006 34
Totals	$2,268,557 06	$2,032,118 69
Total in cities		2,268,557 06
Total in the State		$4,300,675 75

If the amount remaining on hand, October 1st, 1860, (at the close of the school year,) be deducted it will give as the actual payments for school purposes during the twelve months preceding, in the cities, of $1,701,134.60, and in the rural districts, $1,953,112.35; or a total in the State of $3,744,246.95.

APPORTIONMENT OF SCHOOL MONEY FOR 1861.— From the following statement we can learn the amount of school money and its apportionment for the current year:

Moneys Apportioned, &c.

From common school fund	$ 165,000 00
From United States deposit fund	165,000 00
From State school tax	1,054,419 10
Balance in treasury	986 80
Total	$1,385,459 95

The above account is apportioned as follows, viz.:

For the payment of school commissioners' salaries		$ 56,000 00
For district quotas, as per table		419,656 74
For pupil " " "	$852,556 35	
For " " for Indians	1,036 06	853,592 41
For libraries, as per table	54,937 06	
For libraries for Indians	62 94	55,000 00
Balance for contingent apportionments		1,180 80
Total		$1,385,459 95

SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS AND THEIR DUTIES.—Superintendent VAN DYCK offers some wholesome suggestions to this class of individuals. The Commissioners were chosen for the various districts into which the State is divided at the last general election, and entered upon their duties January 1st, 1861. The Superintendent says:—"Without any designed reflection upon the character or efficiency of the officers recently chosen, I am impelled, in view of the past, to suggest that the Legislature should make provision in some manner for enforcing the faithful discharge of the duties pertaining to the office under consideration. In not a few cases the incumbents are engaged in other avocations requiring a large share of time and attention, whilst their duties as school commissioners are regarded as of secondary importance, to be discharged as convenience shall allow — others, though nominally devoting their whole time to the office, are negligent in the discharge of their official duties, and not unfrequently subject their constituents to much trouble in the attainment of services, which the commissioner should perform with alacrity and punctuality. The power of removal from office for persistent neglect of official requirements, with proper guards against its abuse, would go far toward securing a fidelity of service demanded alike by the public interests and the obligations of duty."

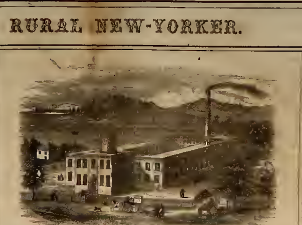
TEACHERS' INSTITUTES.—The Teachers' Institutes, held in the various counties during the last autumn, under the auspices of the school commissioners, were not as numerously attended as those of the preceding year, although the appropriation by the State, for instruction and contingent expenses, was materially increased at the last Legislative session. This result, says Mr. VAN DYCK, is no doubt to be attributed to the fact that the term of office of the commissioners was about to expire, and that hence their influence over teachers, and their own exertions to secure a full attendance, were in some measure lessened. The whole number of teachers present at the Institutes was 5,913; and the average expense per county, $138.58.

NORMAL SCHOOL.—The number of pupils in this department of public instruction during the past year was 331, and of its graduates during the same period, 73, of whom 32 were males and 41 females. The whole number of pupils who have entered its classes is 3,480; of whom 1,193 completed the full course of instruction and received the resulting diploma.

THE KIND OF TEACHERS WE WANT.—A great deficiency in the character of the instruction imparted in our Common Schools has been its lack of adaptation to the ordinary business avocations of the community. In comparatively few instances is any effort made to convey knowledge not embraced within the limits of the most elementary branches. The conditions of society in our day are such as to demand a more extended course of instruction; and an acquaintance with the principles of natural science becomes a necessity not to be overlooked in the education of any child. A knowledge of mechanics is essential to every person who proposes to derive his subsistence from almost any handicraft pursuit— of chemistry to those who design to devote themselves to agriculture — of geometry, mensuration, and algebra, to those who intend to become engineers, architects or builders — of physiology to those who would cultivate health and longevity — of the principles of government to those who desire to become intelligent citizens — and of all, to those who would fill reputably and successfully the varied stations in life to which our free institutions invite even the humblest members of society. Far the greater number of teachers in our common schools are incapable of imparting instruction in these and cognate branches. It is this deficiency which the instruction of the Normal School is especially calculated to supply. Its graduates are prepared to carry this essential knowledge into the schools, and create a desire for a higher course of study on the part of those whose advantages are now so restricted by reason of the limited acquirements of their teachers. They form a means of comparison to school commissioners by which to estimate the qualifications which should characterize those who apply to them for license to enter the school. In these and a thousand other ways, they serve to elevate the standard of common school instruction, whilst their success in the vocation they have chosen, and the respect which their character and conduct uniformly elicits from the community in which their calling is exercised, reflect the highest honor on the institution from which they have graduated.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

THE AMERICAN WATCH.



THE AMERICAN WATCH COMPANY'S MANUFACTORY, WALTHAM, MASS.

We believe in American industrial institutions, and that it is the especial duty of Americans to excel "all the world and the rest of mankind" in the arts of Production and Manufacture — that we should avail ourselves to the fullest extent of the great natural advantages of our soil and climate, and the inventive genius, skill, and industry of the people, to become, more than any other, a Nation which shall, so far as possible, produce both the necessaries and luxuries of life. Hence, we rejoice whenever a new branch of useful production or manufacture is introduced in any part of the country — anything which will render us more independent of foreign nations, and self-reliant and skillful as a people. And we hold it to be the duty of our people to encourage, in every proper manner, those who, in thus endeavoring to compete successfully with the old world, not only elevate us among the nations, but bestow great and permanent benefits upon community. Among the benefits thus conferred, we may mention the employment of artisans, the building up of villages and cities, and consequent creation of new *home* markets for our surplus agricultural products.

These thoughts, founded upon views long entertained, are expressed as introductory to what we purpose saying and quoting, voluntarily, relative to the manufacture of *The American Watch*. This business is conducted by THE AMERICAN WATCH CO., (represented by APPLETON, TRACY & CO., Waltham, and ROBBINS & APPLETON, New York City,) a fine view of whose extensive Manufactory is given above. The establishment is located on the banks of Charles River, in the town of Waltham, Mass., and is said to occupy a site of surpassing beauty. [The enterprise was first started at Roxbury in 1850, but subsequently removed to and made permanent in its present location.] "The manufactory occupies an area of one hundred by one hundred feet, and forms a quadrangle, with an open court in the center. The building is two stories in height, and has eight hundred feet of floor line, with about sixteen hundred feet of bench line for the accommodation of the workmen. The motive power is a twelve-horse steam engine, which gives motion to the lines of shafting in all the rooms, to which are attached the numerous ingenious, delicate and wonderful machines which are used in the various processes for transforming the crude materials into the exquisitely finished parts of the watch, the completest result of human ingenuity and skill yet attained."

The Watches manufactured at this establishment have become celebrated as time-keepers, and are fast supplanting those of foreign manufacture. We know whereof we affirm in this respect, from personal knowledge, and the testimony of friends upon whose judgment the utmost reliance can be placed,— and therefore hope it will not long be true that "we pay five millions of dollars to European manufacturers every year for the foreign made watches that inundate the country, and as much more for keeping them in working order, while we have artisans among us capable of earning the first five millions, and of saving more than the last to their customers, by doing the work thoroughly."

Among the many tributes to the value of the American Watch, and the enterprise of its manufacturers, we have seen nothing better expressed than an article in Harper's Weekly, descriptive of a visit to the establishment at Waltham. It is from the pen of the graceful and versatile author of the "Potiphar Papers"— GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS, also celebrated as one of the most accomplished lecturers in the whole country— and so interesting that we are constrained to quote it entire, as follows:

"GOVERNOR BANKS, of Massachusetts, recommends in his last Message, that the dome of the Boston State House be gilded. That dome is the most conspicuous object as you approach the city, and it is seen from all the neighboring heights, as the dome of St. Peter's is seen from the villas about Rome. Boston also sits upon its three hills, dark and massive, like a feudal baron; and the gilded dome would be only like a glittering crown, reminding the feudatory villages around of the grandeur of their lord. That lord ought to be proud of his subjects, for no city in the world had ever a more thrifty, prosperous, intelligent neighborhood of villages, which overlap and run into each other, contented with themselves and proud of the whole.

"Now if, some winter morning, when you wish to get a little nearer to the secret of that thrift and character, you take one of the trains that are incessantly departing westward from Boston, after crossing the Back Bay, and gliding through the gardens of Brookline and Brighton, skirting the valley of the Charles River, you will find yourself in the pretty village of West Newton. It is white and wooden, and neat and cheerful, especially as you see it the next moment from the comfortable robes, wrapped in which you are slipping along the road behind a solid pair of horses, making music as they go. A few moments bring you to the road which winds above a broad basin of the Charles, upon which they are cutting ice. The surface of the river is furrowed by a horse and machine, and the process looks to you like winter plowing. But yonder are spires among the trees; and nearer, upon the very edge of the river basin, is a low, two-story building, full of windows. The spires are the spires of Waltham, and the many windowed building is the factory of the American Watch Company.

"Of all the manufactures, that of watches must be the most exquisite and delicate. But why should Europe make our watches? asks common sense and the genius of American enterprise. Why should it? asks the American Watch Company; and in this factory that Company is demonstrating why we should make them for ourselves. And it is a very pretty and satisfactory answer to a very plain question.

"There are some two hundred and forty or fifty hands employed, of which about a third are women, and only about a dozen in all are foreigners, mainly Englishmen; and the work is almost exclusively done by machinery; but machinery so delicate and beautiful that, when your mind has become a little excited by observing the innumerable, and to you, inexplicable processes of the different shops, you feel as if you had seen the human brain in full play, thinking out watches.

"The fineness of the work is bewildering. Here are screws of which a hundred and fifty thousand make a pound. They are kept in little glass phials, like those of the Homeopathic medicine cases. And here are shavings of metal so fine that five thousand must be laid side by side to make an inch; and here are measures that will indicate the ten-thousandth part of an inch. Here, with a flying steel point, touched with a paste of diamond dust, the inside of the fine bores of the "jewels" are polishing; and here the galvanic process sets the pure gold upon the plates, while just beyond, wheels with their outer rim studded with small wisps or brooms of brass wire, revolve with a velocity that makes the room hum, and impart to the plates that sparkling, frosty complexion which is peculiar to the inner plates of watches.

"The precision of the work by machinery methodizes the whole business. The Company may have turned out about forty or fifty thousand watches, and these are all divided into different classes, sizes, &c. For instance, there may be a thousand or five thousand "foundations" cut and shaped to-day. They are all exactly of the same size; each line in one corresponds with the same in all the others. Each hole is drilled in precisely the same spot, so that the screw which will fit one hole in one, will perfectly fit the corresponding hole in all. So with the wheels also; and if your watch in California or Hindostan loses some such part, you have only to send to the factory its number and class, and you have by return mail the part wanting. Do you guess how it is packed? A thin layer of cork is cut open and the part inserted; then it is closed and tied with a bit of silk, put in an envelope, and dropped into the post-office.

"Wondering and charmed you follow on through the different work-shops of the cheerful and airy factory — for it is open everywhere to the sun, there is no deleterious dust from any of the processes. There is one room — the salamander room — in which the enamel for the dial is set in a fervid furnace, and the heat is not less than a hundred degrees of Fahrenheit.

"And there is one pleasant impression — the pleasantest of all — that you bring away. While the infinite variety of machinery seems almost self-intelligent, the workmen and women impress you with the heartiest respect; and when, as you pause in the office, you are shown the beautiful watch that was recently given by the citizens of Waltham to the wife of Governor Banks, you are irresistibly reminded that he came out of a factory in this very town to be Speaker in Congress and Governor of his State; and reflect that, as you have just seen the making of watches that mark the time of day, so, among the makers, you have seen the men whose intelligence and ability mark the time of our civilization and progress — a time in which the welfare of society is getting to be more and more established upon the only permanently sure basis, the self-respect and intelligence of labor.

"There are the spires of Waltham — the pretty white town of West Newton — and, while here are the steep tiers of dark brick houses rising to the State House. You observe that Boston has not yet its gilt crown on; but remembering what you have seen — reflecting that now it is shown that we can furnish ourselves with the best watches so much more cheaply than when we import them — you will stop at the foot of the State House steps long enough to say, 'You deserve a crown, because these things have been done under your eye and by your spirit.'

"Then, if you choose, you may rise and invite Beacon street to give three cheers for the twentieth century!"

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CURIOUS HORSES.

We have now on exhibition in London four "African Horses," of which we read in the handbill that they are of perfect symmetry, well matched, and all of a dark-brown color, the tallest being 31 inches high. The owner had the honor of exhibiting them to her most gracious majesty, who expressed herself much pleased with them. The horses, or rather ponies, are now stalled in the same room where the talking fish was formerly exhibited. They are pretty little creatures, of a sort of mouse color. The heads are not like those of ordinary English horses or ponies, but have a peculiar foreign look about them. They have very long tails, and their tiny hoofs have not as yet been shod. The weight of the smallest is about nine stone. It requires some one more experienced than myself to say for certain of what breed they really are; but they are, I think, not Shetland ponies, for this animal is for the most part short and thick, with a broad back and stout legs. The present specimens are, on the contrary, narrow in the back and remarkably fine about the legs. They may be said to be well-bred creatures. The hair, too, is more like wool than the ordinary hair of a horse. The proprietor has just clipped them, so that their well-made proportions are shown off to good advantage. I should feel obliged if any correspondent would kindly tell us if he has seen such ponies in Africa; and if so, in what part?— F. T. BUCKLAND, in *The Field*.

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WONDERS OF CHEMISTRY.

SCIENCE is full of wonder, but chemistry is the science of wonders. The following from Lyon Playfair will awaken curiosity:

The horseshoe nails dropped in the streets during the daily traffic reappear in the form of swords and guns. The clippings of the traveling tinker are mixed with the parings of horses' hoofs from the smithy, or the cast-off woolen garments of the poorest inhabitants of a sister isle, and soon afterward, in the form of dyes of brightest blue, grace the dress of courtly dames. The main ingredient of the ink with which I now write was possibly once part of the broken hoop of an old beer barrel. The bones of dead animals yield the chief constituent of lucifer-matches. The dregs of port wine carefully rejected by the port wine drinker in decanting his favorite beverage, are taken by him in the morning in the form of seidlitz powders to remove the effects of his debauch. The offal of the streets and the washings of coal gas reappear, carefully preserved in the lady's smelling bottle, or are used by her to flavor *blanc-manges* for her friends.

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RECORD OF THE WEATHER AT WASHINGTON. — The method of recording and predicting the weather, pursued each day at the Smithsonian Institute, is peculiarly simple. They have a map of the United States hung upon a board, with pins stuck through at the points where the observers of the Institute are stationed. Daily reports are received from many of these points. Each morning an assistant hangs a grain of corn on the pins to indicate the state of the weather— black if raining, green if snowing, brown if cloudy, and white if clear. All storms travel East, and thus they are enabled to predict, with great certainty, the condition of the weather twelve hours in advance.

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USING ZINC IN CONTACT WITH PLASTER AND IRON. —A report of a committee appointed by the Central Society of Architects, in Paris, recommends "that where zinc is used, it should be applied with great care, as certain precautions, very simple, but never to be overlooked, are indispensable. Thus — contact with plaster, which contains a destructive salt, is to be avoided; also, contact with iron, which is very injurious and liable to cause a rapid oxydation. Eave-gutters should always be supported by galvanized brackets, and no gutter or sheet zinc should be laid on oak boards."

The Young Ruralist.

REASON AND INSTINCT.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER: — Philosophers teach us that the main difference between beings governed by reason and those governed by instinct is, the former in all their undertakings make mistakes, and they perfect nothing but by trials and experiments, while the latter never make mistakes in any of their calculations, and are, consequently, susceptible of no *improvement*. To illustrate — they say, that the youngest parent bird is taught by instinct how to provide for her young, and to use the *signs* and *sounds* for communicating to their young, as well as the old bird that has reared many broods.

Now, then, I do not rightly *understand* the rule, or else I have witnessed an *exception*. It has been a question among metaphysicians, "which is the mother of the chicken," &c. I will not attempt to discuss this question, but will relate the case above referred to.

About two years ago last August, as I was one morning passing through the barnyard, I observed an old hen sitting right where I wished to pass. A few feet from her sat a half-grown pullet, one she had reared the same season. As I approached, they showed little inclination to move out of my way. With my foot I assisted the old hen from her sitting posture, and immediately three little chicks ran from under her; at the same time, the pullet arose and two chicks ran from under her, also. The clucking of the old hen called the chickens all to herself, in spite of the efforts made by the pullet to restrain them. Chickens *will* follow the hen that clucks, — the pullet didn't know how to cluck!

I passed on and thought no more of it, until a few days after, as I was passing near the same spot, I saw the same hen and pullet sitting a few feet apart, as before. With a good deal of hustling and squalling, the old hen got up, and one solitary chicken ran from under her, while four sprightly little fellows ran from under the pullet, and as they moved off, the whole five little chicks ran after the pullet, and even the old hen, rather than be left alone, followed her important young *assistant*, which by this time had learned to cluck as fast as any old hen in the yard. But I think if she had made the same noise in other circumstances, I should have mistaken her meaning, yet the little chicks seemed to understand her quite well.

Time passed on. The pullet improved daily in clucking, and, strangest of all, she soon learned to practice all the airs assumed by maternal hens. She would bristle her feathers, spread her wings, and squall vociferously, if any stranger came too near her adopted protege.

Now it seems to me that instinct failed to perform her work, and the young hen was under the necessity of looking to reason for a guide. Probably the old hen had commenced laying before she had weaned her former brood, and when she felt like sitting had driven some other hen from her nest, appropriating the eggs to herself just as they were ready to hatch. But I cannot imagine what caused the pullet to desire sharing the family cares with her mother.

Java, Ohio, Feb., 1861. W. B. C.

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A FEW FACTS FOR "S. M."

MESSRS. EDITORS:— In looking over the columns of the RURAL a few weeks ago, I saw an article from "S. M.," in which he says, "Give us pure, unadulterated wine, for mercy's sake, and let us hurl our most severe denunciations at the drugged wines, and brandies, &c." If "S. M." will look out and read the following Scripture references, he will find that God has hurled his denunciations and woes at *wine* and wine drinkers—*pure unadulterated* wine, *too*, and *not drugged* wines or brandies.

Again, "S. M." says, "I fear this denouncing the use of *wine*, is not hitting at the right place." *It is hitting at the very stepping stone of debaucheries.* Every man or woman who manufactures wine for a *beverage*, is supporting and extending a system which is proving the ruin of our noblest brothers. They are nourishing a viper around their own hearthstones, which will eventually coil its slimy folds around the manliest form and ruin the noblest soul. No one can be in favor of the Temperance Reform, or a supporter of it, who countenances in the least the drinking of wine. Again, "some noted writer has said that man needs some stimulant, let that be what it will; and if that is the case, strong drink will be resorted to in the absence of wine." Another noted writer has also said that "there is only one stimulant that never fails, and never intoxicates— Duty." A man who has a clear conscience and a clean heart, needs no wine to drown ill deeds.

REFERENCES—Prov. XX. 1; XXXI. 4, XXI. 17; XXXIII, 29, 30, 31, 32. Isa. VII. 22, XXIV. 9; XXVIII, 1, 7. Jer. XXIII, 9, XXV, 26, 27, 28. Num. IV. 3. Dan. I. 8, V, 1, 2, 4, 23. Lev. X. 9. Judg. XIII. 4. Hos. III. 2. Luke I. 15. Rom. XIV, 21. Eph. V, 18. 1 Tim. III, 3, 8. Pet. IV, 3.

Alfred University, N. Y., 1861. MINNIE MISTWOOD.

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THE "SPECTRE OF THE BROCKEN."—B. S. writes from the Isle of Wight, describing a sight of this phenomenon, which he obtained on the highdown behind Bonchurch:—"A dense fog was setting in from the sea, and pouring along the flanks of the downs, above which the wreaths of mist were piled up like a wall immediately in front of us. Behind us an almost level sun was shining brilliantly across the summit of the downs, right upon the wall of fog. The refraction of the sun's rays through the mist, produced a beautiful Iris, of an oval form, the colors faint, but perfectly distinct. While we were looking with admiration on this, we became conscious of dark spectral forms of colossal dimensions, in the center of the halo. On raising our arms and lifting our hats, our movements were mimicked by the images, and we at once perceived that the appearances we were gazing on were no more than our own shadows, projected by the sun at our backs on the fog-wall, and there received as the images of a magic lantern on the white sheet. After watching these singular phenomena for some minutes, as they and the surrounding halo alternately faded away or increased in distinctness with the decrease or increase of the density of the mist, the fog reached our position, and, of course, the spectres were lost altogether."

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TRIFLES NOT TO BE TRIFLED WITH.— A friend called on Michael Angelo, who was finishing a statue. Some time afterwards he called again; the sculptor was still at his work. His friend, looking at the figure, exclaimed: "You have been idle since I saw you last!" "By no means," replied the sculptor; "I have retouched this part, and brought out this muscle; I have given more expression to this lip, and more energy to this limb." "Well, well," said his friend, "but all these are trifles." "It may be so," replied Angelo; "but recollect that trifles make perfection, and that perfection is no trifle."

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S INAUGURAL.

[Continued from page 79.]

people themselves can do this if they choose, but the executive, as such, has nothing to do with it. His duty is to administer the present government as it came to his hands, and to transmit it, unimpaired by him, to his successor. Why should there not be a patient confidence in the ultimate justice of the people? Is there any better or equal hope in the world? In our differences, is either party without faith of being in the right?

If the Almighty Ruler of Nations with His eternal truth and justice be on your side of the North, or on yours of the South, that truth and that justice will surely prevail by the judgment of this great tribunal,—the American people. By the form of the government under which we live, this same people have wisely given their public servants but little power for mischief, and have, with equal wisdom, provided for the return of that little to their hands at very short intervals. While the people retain their virtue and vigilance, no administration, by any extreme wickedness or folly, can very seriously injure the Government in the short space of four years.

My countrymen, one and all, think well upon this subject. Nothing valuable can be lost by taking time. If there be an object to hurry any of you in hot haste to a step which you would never take deliberately, that object will be frustrated by taking time; but no good object can be frustrated by it. Such of you as are now dissatisfied, still have the old Constitution unimpaired, and, on the sensitive point, the laws of your own framing under it; while the new Administration will have no immediate power, if it would, to change either.

If it were admitted that you who are dissatisfied hold the right side in the dispute, there still is no single reason for precipitate action. Intelligence, patriotism, christianity, and a firm reliance on Him who has never yet forsaken this favored land, are still competent to adjust, in the best way, all our present difficulties.

In your hands, my dissatisfied fellow-countrymen, and not in mine, is the momentous issue of civil war. The Government will not assail you. You can have no conflict without yourselves being the aggressors. You have no oath registered in Heaven to destroy the Government, while I shall have the most solemn one to preserve, protect and defend it.

I am loth to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break the bonds of our affection. The mystic chords of memory stretch high from every battle-field and patriot grave to every living heart and hearth-stone all over this broad land, and will yet swell the chorus of the Union when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., MARCH 9, 1861.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

A NEW NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN was duly inaugurated as President of the United States, on Monday last, the impressive ceremonies being undisturbed, except by the plaudits of an immense concourse of people. The Inaugural Address of the President, which we publish elsewhere, is considered by men of all parties, so far as we have heard opinions expressed, an able and statesmanlike paper—eminently firm and dignified, yet conservative and national in its positions, arguments and conclusions. The last Presidential Inaugural which we specially commended, emanated from a Democrat, but this one is conceded to be superior to that or any other promulgated during the past twenty years—for, while it is imbued with sentiments of lofty patriotism, it exhibits that *firmness of purpose*, and *kind* regard for the *rights* and *interests* of every and all sections of the Union, befitting the great crisis in our national affairs. It shows that ABRAHAM LINCOLN by no means contemplates being the mere President of a party or section, but of a whole nation of thirty millions of freemen—that he will alike protect and seek to promote the best interests of the whole American Confederacy, North and South, East and West. We have only a telegraph report of the Inaugural—have read no expressions of opinion by the press of any party or section—but firmly believe its sentiments will be acceptable to the great mass of people throughout our widely extended country. The assurance that the Government will be administered according to the Constitution—that the Laws will be kindly yet firmly and impartially enforced—will be likely to restore Confidence, and induce wise men of all parties and sections to second the efforts of one *so solemnly pledged to sustain the Union, the Constitution, and the Laws.*

A telegraph dispatch from Washington, thus speaks of the reception of the Inaugural, and the ceremonies which followed:

"During the delivery of the Inaugural, which commenced at 1½ o'clock, Mr. LINCOLN was much cheered, especially at any allusion to the Union. President BUCHANAN and Chief Justice TANEY listened with the utmost attention to every word of the address, and at its conclusion the latter administered the usual oath, in taking which Mr. LINCOLN was vociferously cheered.

The Chief Justice seemed very much agitated, and his hand shook perceptibly with emotion. The Inauguration to-day makes the eighth ceremony of the kind at which Chief Justice Taney has officiated, having administered the oath of office successively to Van Buren, Tyler, Polk, Taylor, Fillmore, Pierce, Buchanan and Lincoln. The ceremony was exceedingly impressive.

After the conclusion of the Inauguration ceremony, the President was escorted to the Senate Chamber, thence to his carriage, and the military accompanied him to the White House, with Mr. Buchanan and the Committee of Arrangements. On reaching the Executive mansion, the troops formed in a double line in Maine Avenue, and the barouche containing the Presidential party passed through to the mansion. Mr. Buchanan accompanied Mr. Lincoln to the Main Hall, and there took his farewell leave of him, expressing the hope, in candid terms, that his administration might prove a happy and prosperous one. The Ex-President then retired to the residence of District Attorney Old, where he will temporarily sojourn till his departure from the city to-morrow evening."

THE CABINET.

Though not formally announced, it is supposed that Mr. LINCOLN'S Cabinet will be constituted as follows:

Secretary of State—WM. H. SEWARD, of New York.
Secretary of Treasury—S. P. CHASE, of Ohio.
Secretary of War—SIMON CAMERON, of Penn.
Secretary of the Navy—MONTGOMERY BLAIR, of Md.
Secretary of Interior—C. B. SMITH, of Indiana.
Post Master General—GIDEON WELLS, of Conn.
Attorney General—EDWARD BATES, of Missouri.

It is intimated that Mr. SHERMAN, of Ohio, may be substituted for Mr. CHASE, in which case the latter will probably take a mission to Europe.

Affairs at Washington.

THE War Department received dispatches on the 25th ult., stating that Gen. Twiggs had surrendered the military property to the revolutionists in Texas. The telegraph was from the commissary of subsistence, and dated at New Orleans. He adds that as a loan, the use of the Government means of transportation was allowed to take the federal troops to the seaboard, and they were also permitted to take with them three or four cannon and their side arms.

On the 26th ult., the Secretary received documents from Texas, showing that as early as the 7th of February Gen. Twiggs was entering into negotiations with the Texans for the surrender of the military property. Col. Waite was several weeks ago appointed to succeed Gen. Twiggs as the chief of the military department in Texas, but it appears he had not reached there at the time of Gen. Twiggs' surrender, which is considered by the governmental authority here as one of the most disgraceful and atrocious acts yet committed by the secessionists. The correspondence on file at the Department shows conclusively that Gov. Houston was greatly instrumental in inducing Twiggs to surrender the government property.

On the 27th a dispatch to the War Department by Gen. Twiggs, announced that he had surrendered to Texas all forts, arms, and munitions in that State.

Gen. Twiggs' name has been stricken from the Army roll as a Coward and Traitor.

The United States Court on the 25th ult., in the case of the Indian trust bonds fraud, dissolved the injunction, deciding the Government bonds legal where holders of bonds received them without notice of fraud, and the United States has no redress.

A dispatch to the Government on the 28th ult., reports that a large expedition is leaving Galveston for the Rio Grande, consisting of six companies from Galveston and Houston, and two from the interior. The object is declared to be protection to the frontier in the event of the United States troops being withdrawn. Col. Ford, an old ranger, commands the regiment.

The Peace Convention adjourned *sine die*. Many Commissioners have gone home. Leading members of the Convention in the Border States express satisfaction with the Franklin plan of adjustment and express their determination to make it a distinct issue in the approaching election. They maintain that their States can be held in the Union by it.

Here is the plan of Mr. Franklin of Pa., which is a modification of that of Mr. Guthrie of Ky., in full detail:

SEC. 1. In all the present territory of the United States north of the parallel of 36° 30′ of north latitude, involuntary servitude, except as punishment of crime, is prohibited. In all the present territory south of that line the status of persons held to service or labor, as it now exists, shall not be changed. Nor shall any law be passed by Congress or the Territorial Legislature to hinder or prevent the taking of such persons from any of the States of this Union to said territory, nor to impair the rights arising from said relation. But the same shall be subject to judicial cognizance in the Federal Courts, according to the course of the common law. When any territory north or south of said line, with such boundary as Congress may prescribe, shall contain a population equal to that required for a member of Congress, it shall, if its form of government be republican, be admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, with or without involuntary servitude, as the constitution of such State may provide.

SEC. 2. No territory shall be acquired by the United States, except by discovery, and for naval and commercial stations, depots and transit routes, without the concurrence of a majority of all the Senators from the States which allow involuntary servitude, and a majority of all the Senators from States which prohibit that relation; nor shall territory be acquired by treaty, unless the votes of a majority of the Senators from each class of States hereinafter mentioned be cast as a part of the two third majority necessary to the ratification of such treaty.

SEC. 3. Neither the constitution, nor any amendment thereto, shall be construed to give Congress power to regulate, abolish, or control, within any State and Territory of the United States, the relation established or recognized by the laws thereof touching persons bound to labor or involuntary service in the District of Columbia, without the consent of Maryland, and without the consent of the owners, or making the owners who do not consent just compensation, nor the power to interfere with or prohibit Representatives and others from bringing with them to the city of Washington, retaining and taking away, persons so bound to labor or service, nor the power to interfere with or abolish involuntary service in places under the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States within those States and Territories where the same is established or recognized; nor the power to prohibit the removal or transportation of persons held to labor or involuntary service in any State or Territory of the United States to any other State or Territory thereof where it is established or recognized by law or usage; and the right during transportation by sea or river, of touching at ports, shores and landings, and of landing in case of distress, but not for sale or traffic, shall exist, nor shall Congress have power to authorize any higher rate of taxation on persons held to labor or service than on land. The bringing into the District of Columbia of persons held to labor or service for sale, or placing them in depots to be afterwards transferred to other places for sale as merchandise, is prohibited, and the right of transit through any State or Territory against its dissent is prohibited.

SEC. 4. The third paragraph of the second section of the fourth article of the constitution shall not be construed to prevent any of the States, by appropriate legislation and through the action of their judicial and ministerial officers, from enforcing the delivery of fugitives from labor to the person to whom such service or labor is due.

SEC. 5. The foreign slave trade is hereby forever prohibited, and it shall be the duty of Congress to pass laws to prevent the importation of slaves, coolies, or persons held to service or labor, into the United States or the Territories, from places beyond the limits thereof.

SEC. 6. The first, third and fifth sections, together with this section six of these amendments, and the third paragraph of the second section of the first article of the constitution, and the third paragraph of the second section of the fourth article thereof, shall not be amended or abolished without the consent of all the States.

SEC. 7. Congress shall provide by law that the United States shall pay to the owner the full value of his fugitives from labor, in all cases where the marshal or other officer whose duty it was to arrest such fugitive was prevented from so doing by violence or intimidation from mobs or riotous assemblages, or when, after arrest, such fugitive was rescued by like violence or intimidation, and the owner thereby prevented and obstructed in the pursuit of his remedy for the recovery of such fugitive. Congress shall provide by law for securing to the citizens of each State the privileges and immunities of the several States.

Information is before the proper authorities, tending to prove that an organized band of 300 men had sworn that Mr. Lincoln should never sleep in the White House. A detective who joined them said the plan is as follows:—The entire band are to occupy a position as near to the President on inauguration day as they can obtain; one of their number, standing in the centre of them, is to shoot Mr. Lincoln with an air gun, when the crowd of men arranged round the assassin will so hide him as to render detection impossible.

The Post Master of Madison, Florida, is using domestic manufactured postage stamps contrary to law. The Department has been furnished with a specimen.

The War Department received dispatches from Major Anderson on the 28th ult. He has not been sick. He says the work continues on the bomb proof batteries at Cummings' Point, but he could with the guns of Fort Sumter sweep the whole away in a few moments.

Advices from Charleston state that shortly after the arrival of Jeff. Davis in that city, he paid a visit to Fort Sumter, and had a long interview with Major Anderson. It was afterwards given out at Charleston that there would be no fight at Sumter. The floating battery was launched on the 25th ult., and the Dahlgren guns were hourly expected. All the troops on furlough were ordered to return by Wednesday the 27th ult.

Flag officer Montgomery, of the Pacific Squadron, writes the Department that the Saranac had returned from the unsuccessful search for the sloop-of-war Levant. He had strong hopes of safety. The Wyoming, also sent in search, had not returned.

Caleb Cushing has given an opinion on the question of the legality of the acceptances issued by Secretary Floyd. He holds that by authoritative decisions of the Supreme Court in previous cases of like nature, the Government is liable for these acceptances.

Secretary Holt addressed a letter to the Governor of Louisiana, demanding the restoration of the Government property seized at New Orleans. He denounced the seizure as an act of flagrant and atrocious spoliation. Gov. Moore returned the letter with the endorsement, that when addressed in the usual language of official intercourse, he would consider the matter.

The Secretary of War has published an official order, dismissing Gen. Twiggs from the army for treachery to the flag of his country, in having surrendered, on demand of the authorities of Texas, the military posts and other property of the United States in his department, and under his charge.

The recently passed post route bill contains a section requiring 10 cents pre-paid letter postage to and from the Pacific Coast, without regard to distance.—All drop letters are hereafter to be prepaid with postage stamps.

Congressional Proceedings.

SENATE.—Mr. Johnson, of Arkansas, presented the credentials of Charles B. Mitchell, Senator elect from Arkansas.

On motion of Mr. Wade, the bill in relation to the discontinuance of the postal service in the seceded States was taken up and passed,—34 to 12.

Mr. Simmons offered an amendment, repealing the Act for preventing the Secretary of War purchasing patented articles. Mr. Pierce said it had been repealed except a portion relating to the fire arms amendment. Adopted.

The annual report from the Smithsonian Institute was received and ordered printed.

The bill for the organization of the Territory of Colorado was taken up. Mr. Green moved that the Senate concur with the amendment of the House. The House amendment was agreed to—yeas, 25; nays, 19.

The bill to organize a Territorial Government of Nevada was taken up and passed.

The bill to organize the Territory of Dacotah was taken up and passed.

Mr. Fessenden made a report from the Conference committee on the Diplomatic bill. Agreed to. So the Consular and Diplomatic bill passed.

Mr. Seward presented credentials of Mr. Harris, Senator elect from New York.

The House amendment to the Post Route bill was agreed to, and the bill passed.

The committee of conference on the patent bill reported. The report was agreed to, and the bill passed.

The committee of conference on the tariff bill reported, recommending the concurrence of the House amendment, striking out the duty on tea and coffee. Agreed to and the bill passed.

The army bill was taken up and passed.

The Vice President announced the reception of a communication from Ex-President Tyler, President of the Peace Convention recently held. That convention approved of what was enclosed, asking Congress to submit the same to the Legislatures of States. The Clerk read the proposition agreed upon, which was modified from Mr. Guthrie's plan. On motion of Mr. Crittenden it was ordered printed, and referred to the select committee, with instructions to report.

[RURAL readers can find the communication referred to,—the Guthrie-Franklin plan,—in Washington News.—ED.]

Mr. Trumbull presented the credentials of Mr. Lane, Senator from Indiana.

He reported from the committee appointed to visit the President and Vice President elect.

Mr. Lincoln said:—With deep gratitude to my countrymen for this mark of confidence, and with great distrust of my ability to perform my duty, even under favorable circumstances, now rendered doubly difficult by existing national peril, but with firm reliance on the strength of our free government and the ultimate loyalty of the people to the just principles on which it is founded, and above all, with unshaken faith in the Supreme Ruler of nations, I accept this trust and shall be pleased to signify my acceptance to the respective Houses of Congress.

Mr. Hamlin said:—Please communicate to the two Houses of Congress my acceptance of trust confided in me by a generous people, and while the position was neither sought nor desired, I am truly grateful for the confidence reposed in me, and deeply sensible of of the obligation imposed. It shall be my earnest effort to discharge my duty in a manner which shall subserve the interests of the whole country.

A resolution allowing Commodore Paulding to receive a grant of land and sword from Nicaragua, was taken up. The grant of land was stricken out, and it then passed.

A bill reimbursing Commodore Paulding's expenses in defending suit by one of Walker's men, was passed.

A report of the Select Committee on the Peace Conference and Crittenden's proposition, was taken up. Mr. Douglas asked that the resolutions of the House also be taken up. Agreed to.

Mr. Lane reported from the Committee of Conference on the Oregon war debt bill, that the Senate agree to the House amendment, with an amendment making the amount paid $2,400,000, and allowing the Auditor to receive additional evidence in regard to supplies furnished, &c., and that the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to pay the claimants in the bonds of the United States. The report was agreed to.

By consent, Mr. Crittenden, from the Select Committee on the proposition adopted by the Peace Convention, offered a report recommending the adoption of the proposition.

Mr. Seward said that the Senator from Illinois, (Mr. Trumbull,) and himself formed a minority on that committee, and wished to present a substitute as a minority report; but the minority held that was not competent, so he asked leave to submit a joint resolution in his own name, in which the Senator from Illinois concurs:

Whereas, The Legislatures of Kentucky, Illinois, and New Jersey, have applied to Congress to call a Convention, for proposing amendments to the Constitution, therefore,

Resolved, That the other States be instructed to take the subject into consideration and express their will to Congress, in accordance with the 5th Article of the Constitution.

The bill relative to the distribution of books, reports of the Supreme Court, &c., was passed.

The bill donating land in Minnesota and Oregon for school purposes passed.

HOUSE.—The Speaker presented the report of the Committee of 33 on the condition of the Union. The House adopted the resolutions as reported by Mr. Corwin. Mr. Sherman, of Ohio, previously moved to lay them on the table, but the House refused by a vote of 40 to 24. The vote on the adoption was 136 against 53. The resolutions read:

Resolved, That, in the opinion of the committee, the existing discontents among the Southern people, and the growing hostility among them to the Federal government, are greatly to be regretted, and that whether such discontents and hostility are without just cause or not, any reasonable, proper and constitutional remedies and additional and more specific and effectual guarantees of their peculiar rights and interests as recognized by the Constitution, necessary to preserve the peace of the country and the perpetuity of the Union, should be promptly and cheerfully granted.

Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all attempts on the part of the Legislature of any of the States to obstruct or hinder the recovery and surrender of fugitives from service or labor, are in derogation of the Constitution of the United States, inconsistent with the comity and good neighborhood that should prevail among the several States, and dangerous to the peace of the Union.

Resolved, That the several States be respectfully requested to cause their statutes to be revised, with a view to ascertain if any of them are in conflict with or tend to embarrass or hinder the execution of the laws of the United States, made in pursuance of the second section of the fourth article of the Constitution of the United States, for the delivery up of persons held to labor by the laws of any State, and escaping therefrom; and the Senate and House of Representatives earnestly request that all enactments having such tendency be forthwith repealed, as required by a just sense of constitutional obligations and by a due regard for the peace of the republic, and the President of the United States is requested to communicate these resolutions to the Governors of the several States, with a request that they will lay the same before the Legislatures thereof respectively.

Resolved, That we recognize Slavery as now existing in fifteen of the United States by the usages of the laws of those States; and we recognize no authority, legally or otherwise, outside of a State where it so exists, to interfere with slaves or Slavery in such States, in disregard of the rights of their owners or the peace of society.

Resolved, That we recognize the justice and propriety of a faithful execution of the Constitution and laws made in pursuance thereof on the subject of fugitive slaves, or fugitives from service or labor, and discountenance all mobs or hindrances to the execution of such laws, and that citizens of each State shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States.

Resolved, That we recognize no such conflicting element in its composition, or sufficient cause from any source, for a dissolution of this Government; that we were not sent here to destroy but to sustain and harmonize the institutions of the country, and to see that equal justice is done to all parts of the same; and finally, to perpetuate its existence on terms of equality and justice to all.

Resolved, That the faithful observance on the part of all the States of all constitutional obligations to each other and to the Federal Government is essential to the peace of the country.

Resolved, That each State be requested to revise its statutes, and, if necessary, so to amend the same as to secure, without legislation by Congress, to citizens of other States traveling therein, the same protection as citizens of such State enjoy; and also protect the citizens of other States, traveling or sojourning therein, against the popular violence or illegal summary punishment, without trial in due form of law for imputed crimes.

Resolved, That each State be also respectfully requested to enact such laws as will prevent and punish any attempt whatever in such State to recognize or set on foot the lawless invasion of any other State or Territory.

Resolved, That the President be requested to transmit copies of the foregoing resolutions to the Governors of the several States, with a request that they be communicated to their respective Legislatures.

Resolved, That as there are no propositions from any quarter to interfere with slavery in the District of Colombia, or in places under the exclusive jurisdiction of Congress, and situate within the limits of States that permit the holding of slaves, or to interfere with the inter-State slave trade, this committee does not deem it necessary to take any action on those subjects.

After the adoption of the Resolutions of the Committee of Thirty-three, the House took up the joint resolution reported by the Committee, which reads as follows:

"JOINT RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

"*Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, two-thirds of both Houses concurring*, That the following article be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three fourths of said Legislatures, shall be valid, to all intents and purposes, as part of the said constitution, viz:

"Article 12. No amendment of this constitution having for its object any interference within the States with the relations between their citizens and those described in section second of the first article of the constitution as 'all other persons,' shall originate with any State that does not recognize that relation within its own limits, or shall be valid without the assent of every one of the States composing the Union."

Mr. Corwin moved to strike out article 12, and insert in its stead as follows:

"That no amendment shall be made to the constitution which will authorize or give Congress power to abolish or interfere, within any State, with the domestic institutions thereof, including that of persons held to labor or servitude by the laws of said State." Carried.

Mr. Morrill, of Maine, offered a resolution that the Select Committee on the abstracted bonds, be and are hereby invested with full power to examine witnesses as to William H. Russell, or any person for him indirectly paying money to any officer of the United States, or any other person to assist him in obtaining contracts or allowances from the Government, or assist him in the transaction of business with the same.

On motion of Mr. Colfax, the House concurred in the Senate's amendments to the bill stopping mails in seceding States.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The proceedings of Parliament were unimportant.

In the House of Commons, Lord John Russell said that the San Juan question with America was still open, but England had made a proposition in a fair spirit, and hoped it would be acceded to.

With regard to the fugitive slave Anderson, the only correspondence had been a demand from America for his extradition, and a simple acknowledgment of the demand.

The Great Eastern will again be ready for sea in March. Her destination is said to be New York.

FRANCE.—A London letter in the Paris Moniteur asserts that a number of English merchants are about to present an address to the Queen, praying that a negotiation be opened with France for a mutual reduction of existing armaments.

The Bonaparte-Patterson case was again before the French Court on the 8th.

The Imperial Attorney explained its legal bearing, and said the only question is, is the marriage null or one of publication in France? and argued that this had been decided in the affirmative.

The Court adjourned its judgment eight days.

ITALY.—A Turin telegram of Feb. 13th, says:—Gaeta will capitulate to-morrow morning. Cialdini will occupy Mount Orlando and all the fortifications, and after the departure of the royal family he will occupy the city, the garrison remaining prisoners of war until Messina, Civitella, and Delfrout shall be surrendered. The King and Queen will then, with their suit, depart on board the French ship Mouette.

AUSTRIA.—It is said the subscriptions to the new loan exceed 30,000,000 florins.

The Comitat of Pesth had voted an address to the Emperor of Austria as King of Hungary, declaring that the recent Royal rescript has destroyed the confidence created by the Imperial diploma of October last. The law prohibits the payment of taxes by the Diet, and a forced loan could remove the citizens from the lawful ground they have taken, and unreserved return to a constitutional life can alone save the King and the country. The Comitat of Odenburg has resolved to pay taxes as heretofore till the Diet shall have taken its resolution.

SWITZERLAND.—A Berne telegram of the 13th says it was thought, through the medium of the Swiss Consulate at Algeria, that Mr. Cobden proposed that Switzerland should mediate between the contending States of America. The federal counsel had declined the proposition on the ground that it was not qualified for such an office, but at the same time expressing thanks to Mr. Cobden.

COMMERCIAL.—*Liverpool Breadstuffs*.—Flour dull and quotations barely maintained. Extra State, 29s@29s 3d. Wheat quiet and steady. Red, 11s 6d@12s, white, 12s 6d@13s. Corn quiet. Mixed, 37s 6d; white, 38s@39s 6d. *Provisions*.—Pork dull. Lard dull at 56s@58s 6d.

The News Condenser.

— The London Institute contains 60,000 volumes.

— The President elect was born on the 12th of February, 1809.

— Macgregor Laird, the African explorer, has just died in England.

— There were 812 convicts in the Auburn Prison, on Monday week.

— "The first clearance of the season" is announced at Cleveland.

— Mrs. Lincoln and Mrs. Hamlin received calls together in New York.

— Jeff Davis, the President of the Southern Confederacy, is 53 years old.

— Gov Morgan has donated $200 for the relief of the Kansas sufferers.

— Ulcer cases have broken out in a British vessel-of-war, built of green timber.

— Mr. Lincoln has already received 700 applications for office from Minnesota.

— The Oswego Times says Fort Ontario, at that place, is now garrisoned by rats.

— The number of persons who annually arrive to the age of 100, in France, is 148.

— The price of Kossuth notes in Hungary has advanced as much as 40 to 60 per cent.

— The pods of the Southern black locust tree are exported to England as food for cattle.

— Near St. Paul, Minn., on the 5th ult., six horses were frozen to death in one stable.

— Special religious services are now held in London, conducted in the Gaelic language.

— Small pox is prevailing in New York, there having been 12 deaths from it within a week.

— The Pennsylvania House passed a joint resolution giving $30,000 for the relief of Kansas.

— The Manufacture of beet-root sugar in France has fallen off the last year about one-fifth.

— A number of the mills in Lowell, Mass., contemplate a reduction in the hours of labor.

— A few gentlemen of New York city have presented an elegant carriage to Mrs. Lincoln.

— The Postmaster of New Orleans has issued a shin plaster which is received in payment of postage.

— The Montgomery Convention has passed an act establishing the free navigation of the Mississippi.

— Andrew Johnson, the patriotic Senator from Tennessee, commenced life as a practical shoemaker.

— Mrs. Gore, the great English authoress, recently deceased, wrote 200 volumes of books in her lifetime.

— A mechanic of Hartford, Ct., has invented a machine which will make 100,000 slate pencils per day.

— Mr Doxat has retired from the editorship of the London Observer, after 54 years and 6 months' service.

— A. J. Hinckley has contracted to clean the streets of New York city for five years, for $279,000 a year.

— In China, the owners of females slaves who do not procure husbands for them are liable to prosecution.

— The steamer Pioneer, for Dr. Livingstone, the African traveler, has got as far at the Cape of Good Hope.

— A bill for the suppression of fortune telling has passed the Lower House of the Pennsylvania Legislature.

— There are five living ex-Presidents of the United States—Van Buren, Tyler, Fillmore, Pierce, and Buchanan.

— It cost the city of Cincinnati for lighting the public lamps, for the quarter ending February 1st, $16,000.

— The contributions to the Kansas Relief Fund in New York city, for the week ending Feb. 15th, were $15,141.

— The exports of books from England are five times the value of the imports, the former nearly a million dollars.

— Mr. McDermott's wife and two children were burnt to death in his dwelling, Sunday night week, at Point Pleasant, N. J.

— The population of Toronto, Canada West, according to the census just taken, is 44,425. The increase in five years is 2,665.

— There is at present over thirty-seven millions of specie in the banks, a larger amount than ever before held in New York.

— The Neptune Insurance Company of Philadelphia, a twin sister of the Quaker City Company, has made an assignment.

— The Chicago Journal publishes the city tax list of real estate to be sold for non payment of taxes, covering six pages!

— Mount Baker, the Oregon volcano, was in active operation at last accounts, throwing off clouds of smoke and steam.

— Mr. John Lamb, a tanner of Pennsylvania, is using petroleum, or rock oil, for the tanning of leather, with great success.

— A company is forming in Liverpool, with a capital of one million of dollars, to establish a hotel with American features.

— The Alabama Senate has refused to abolish the smoking of cigars and pipes in the Senate Chamber when the Senate is in session.

— The copper coins at present in circulation, in England, equal in weight six thousand tons, and in number five hundred million.

— Clarence G. Keats, a nephew of John Keats, the English poet, died, a few days since, at Evansville, Indiana, of consumption.

— The California Stage Company have eight different stage routes on the Pacific coast, embracing 1,093 miles in the aggregate.

— The people of Father Chiniquy's colony, at St. Anne, Ill., have contributed 800 bushels of corn to aid the suffering people in Kansas.

— Green corn, beans, radishes, and the general run of early vegetables, are in the market again, from the second crop, at Brownsville, Texas.

— A uniform penny postage scheme for all Italy is among the first measures to be presented to the national Parliament on its next meeting.

— The Gov General of Canada has issued his proclamation convening the Legislature on the 16th of March, for the dispatch of business.

— William B Astor, of N. Y., Wm. L. Dayton, of N. J., and Prof Felton, Mass., have been appointed regents of the Smithsonian Institute.

— The death of Maj. Gwynn, U. S. A., at Norfolk, Va., is announced. Maj. G. had been forty years in the service, and served with distinction.

— Vantile Mack, a fat boy recently exhibiting at Barnum's Museum, died on Wednesday week. He was seven years old, and weighed 240 pounds.

— The weight of the cattle sold by public auction, in 1860, in Paris, was 12,373,924 kilogrammes. The pork sold amounted to 1,000,193 kilogrammes.

— The Governor of Florida has removed Hon. E. Morris, U. S. Judge, because he would not recognize the jurisdiction of the Republic of Florida.

— On Saturday week, a fine large specimen of the horned owl sat for hours on one of the pinnacles of the spire of St. Andrew's Church, Montreal.

— The Oregon war debt bill, as it has passed the House, appropriates $2,700,000, besides payment for horses, which will make nearly $3,000,000.

— Wisconsin has appropriated $5,000 for the relief of Kansas. The people of the State have made and are still making large appropriations of grain.

— Once the most sickly city in the world, Liverpool, has now become the most healthy, in consequence of the adoption of scientific sanitary measures.

— The amount of coal annually taken from mines in Ohio is estimated by the Commissioner of Statistics to exceed 50,000,000 bushels, or 2,000,000 tons.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Book for the Times—J. W. Bradley.
Garden, Field and other Seeds—R. L. Allen.
Linnæus Pie Plant—Freeman & Brothers.
Thorough-Bred Stock—Jas. Brodie and S. Campbell & Co.
Important to every Farmer who Keeps Stock.
Alfred Academy and University—W. C. Kenyon.
Desirable Seeds—G. F. Needham.
Trees and Stocks for Sale—Harvey Curtis.
Apple Seedlings for Sale—Horace Blackman.
Native Evergreens—Jas. A. Root.
Hawthorn Plants—Joshua Chaffee.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Brown's Troches for Public Speakers and Singers.

LEGISLATURE OF NEW YORK.

SENATE.—The Executive veto of the bill to extend the time of collection of taxes in Oneida county, was announced. A spirited and somewhat spicy debate followed on the question whether the bill should pass, notwithstanding the veto of the Governor. The bill passed over the veto by a vote of 28 to 3.

Mr. Goss called up the concurrent resolutions to appoint a committee to act with the Canadian committee in relation to the Reciprocity Treaty, and they were adopted, 18 to 7.

The following bills were passed:—To amend the statutes in respect to highways; to change the name of the town of Union, Monroe Co., to that of Hamlin; to grant certain privileges to the Southside Railroad Company; to make an appropriation for the payment of Commissioners for loaning money of the United States; to amend the act to facilitate the progress of civil actions where the people of the State are parties; concerning the navigation of the canals, and collection of tolls. It allows boats to go no faster than six miles an hour. The Assembly bills to provide for the better regulation of the New York fire department, and the bill to create a Board of Commissioners of appeals of New York city fire department; to amend the Brooklyn Consolidation act; to amend the act for the regulation of Central Park.

ASSEMBLY.—The Governor presented a memorial from the Legislature of Kansas, setting forth the fact that the people have suffered during the past summer from one of the most severe drouths ever known in the history of the country, and that not less than 30,000 were dependent for subsistence on outside resources until the next harvest, and that a large amount of seed wheat, corn and potatoes, will be wanted for early planting; and that a great depth of snow, covering the dry grass of the prairies, causes starvation amongst the cattle, and that the condition of the people in the spring will be helpless, without a liberal and prompt response to this appeal. The Legislature solicits State aid from her sister States, and expresses entire confidence that funds may be committed to the care of the Territorial Relief Committee of Atchison, who will faithfully and equitably distribute all contributions received by them over the Territory. The memorial is signed by the Speaker of the House, the President of the Council, and is accompanied by a letter of endorsement from Gov. Robinson.

The Speaker announced the following select committee on proposed amendments of the Constitution, to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage: Messrs. Wayne, Angell, Chapman, Johnson, and Ellingwood.

The annual appropriation bill was passed; also, the half-mill tax bill, to pay interest on the debt created under Art. 7, of the Constitution, and a bill to authorize Commissioners of Canal Fund to invest a portion of the canal debt sinking fund, in anticipation of tax for the completion of the Canals.

Mr. Bingham introduced a resolution empowering the Judiciary Committee to inquire into alleged abuses in the re-pannelling of jurors, with power to send for persons and papers. Adopted.

A bill was passed to allow Agricultural and Horticultural Societies to hold thirty thousand dollars worth of real estate.

The Assembly returned the Senate resolution asking consent of that body that the Senate adjourn from the 1st to the 7th of March, with a statement that they had given consent. Adj. till March 7th.

The Publisher to the Public.

GOOD PAY FOR DOING GOOD!

AGENTS-FRIENDS, SUBSCRIBERS, and all other persons who wish to Do Good, and have no objection to receiving Good Pay therefor, are invited to give the following Premium List a careful examination, and decide whether the inducements are not sufficient to secure prompt and energetic ACTION. It will be seen that the premiums are very liberal—*the best yet offered*—and so arranged that every person who remits for Two or more Subscribers, will secure a *Valuable Prize!* Read the list.

GRAND SPECIFIC PRIZES.

PREMIUMS FOR EACH AND ALL—NO BLANKS!

IN order to give *every* Club Agent or Active Friend of the *Rural* a Benefit, we have concluded to offer the following Liberal Specific Premiums to *every person* who forms a Club for the New Volume!

WE WILL GIVE

1. Webster's Unabridged Pictorial Dictionary (cash price $6.00,) and an extra copy of the *Rural* to *every person* remitting $50 for Forty Yearly Subscribers to the *Rural New-Yorker*, (at least twenty of which must be *new* Subscribers, or persons who have not taken the paper regularly for 1860,) previous to the 1st of April, 1861. The same (Dictionary and free copy,) to every person remitting $37,50 for Thirty *New* Subscribers, as above.

2. Lossing's Illustrated History of the United States (Imperial 8vo., with 300 Illustrations,—price, $3,50,) and an extra copy of the *Rural* free, to every person remitting $37,50, as above, for *thirty* copies, at least *twenty* of which must be for *new* subscribers.

3. Macaulay's History of England, (Harper's Edition, in 4 volumes, 12mo., bound in leather—cash price, $4,) and an extra paper free, to every person remitting $30, as above, for *Twenty-Four* copies, at least *twenty* of which must be for *new* subscribers.

4. Macaulay's England, (same edition as above, in cloth binding—price, $2,50,) and an extra paper free, to every person remitting $25 for *twenty new* subscribers, as above. Macaulay's England (as above,) to every person remitting $25 for Twenty subscribers, old or new.

5. Macaulay's England, (in cloth, as above,) to every person remitting $21 for Fifteen copies, at least *ten* of which must be for new subscribers.

6. Webster's Counting House and Family Dictionary (Mason and Brothers' Edition, bound in leather, cash price, $1,50) *post-paid*, and a free copy of the *Rural*, to every person remitting $15 for Twelve copies, at least *eight* being for *new* subscribers.

7. Webster's C. H. & Family Dictionary, post-paid, and a free copy of *Rural*, to every person remitting $15 for Ten *new* subscribers; or

8. Everybody's Lawyer (bound in law style, price $1,25,) *post-paid*, (or, any $1,25 or $1 work, mentioned herein, post-paid), and a free copy of *Rural* to every person remitting $15 for Ten subscribers, whether old or new.

9. Webster's C. H. & F. Dictionary, post paid, and a free copy of *Rural*, to every person remitting $10 for six *new* subscribers.

10. The Horse and his Diseases (Illustrated, bound in leather, price $1,25,) *post-paid*, and a free copy of *Rural*, to every one remitting $10 for Six subscribers, whether old or new.

11. Lossing's Pictorial United States (12mo., with 200 Illustrations, price $1,) *post paid*, to every person remitting $8 for Five subscribers, three being new—or $5 for Three subscribers, two being new.

12. Cole's Fruit Book (price 50 cents,) *post-paid*—or, if preferred, THE SKILLFUL HOUSEWIFE, (same price,) *post-paid*—to every person remitting $4 for two subscribers, one being new.

[Persons entitled to any of the above books, and preferring other works of equal value, mentioned herein, can be accommodated on stating their wishes. For instance, any one entitled to "Everybody's Lawyer," can have "The Horse and His Diseases" or "Lossing's Pictorial," and *vice versa*. Any one entitled to Macaulay's History can have instead, and post-paid, either *two* of the dollar or ten shilling books, and any one entitled to Lossing's Illustrated History, can have instead, and post-paid, *two* copies of the Counting House and Family Dictionary, &c. The Pictorial Dictionary, Lossing's Illustrated History, and Macaulay's History are too heavy to send by mail—but all the other works will be sent *post-paid* to any part of the United States within 3,000 miles.]

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STILL BETTER!

Extra Gifts for Clubs before April!

HAVING resolved to "keep the ball moving" until April—in order to attain a LARGELY INCREASED CIRCULATION—we have concluded to give such liberal rewards for efforts as will pay any and every one for time and trouble devoted to the formation of clubs. We therefore make the following offers IN ADDITION *to the premiums above enumerated:*

1. TO EVERY PERSON procuring and remitting for Forty Yearly Subscribers, (half of the number being *new* subscribers,) to the RURAL NEW-YORKER, between the 9th of February and 1st of April, WE WILL GIVE, (*in addition to the Dictionary and free copy above offered,*) LOSSING'S ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES,—a large and beautiful Octavo Volume of 672 pages, splendidly illustrated, and printed in the best style on extra paper—cash price, $3,50. The same work to every person remitting, according to our terms, for Thirty *New* Subscribers within the same period. [If preferred to Lossing's History, we will give MACAULAY'S HISTORY OF ENGLAND, in four volumes, bound in leather, (price, $4,) or a bound volume of the RURAL NEW-YORKER for 1858, '59, or '60, as preferred, (price, $3.)

2. TO EVERY PERSON remitting as above, for Twenty *New* Subscribers, we will give as an extra premium, a copy of WEBSTER'S C. H. & FAMILY DICTIONARY, post-paid—the most complete and reliable work of its price published—or any $1,25 book, post-paid, above mentioned.

3. TO EVERY PERSON remitting for Fifteen Subscribers, as above, at least ten being *new*, or for Twelve of which eight are new, or for Ten *new* subscribers [see No.'s 5, 6, and 7 above,] we will give, or send post-paid, a copy of EVERYBODY'S LAWYER, or any other $1,25 or $1 book, above named.

4. TO EVERY PERSON remitting for Ten Subscribers, whether old or new, or for Six *new* subscribers, as above, we will give, or send post-paid, a copy of LOSSING'S PICTORIAL UNITED STATES,—12mo., 200 engravings, price, $1.

☞ There, Friends and Strangers, is just what we offer and propose to perform! You can afford to make a little EXTRA effort, we reckon, to secure such LIBERAL and VALUABLE prizes. In fact, we shouldn't be surprised if you should trust some of your neighbors and acquaintances a few weeks, (such as you know will pay,) and advance the money, in order to make a "sure thing." You can decide.

TERMS OF THE RURAL—IN ADVANCE.

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR. *Three Copies, one year, $5; Six Copies, and one free to Club Agent, $10; Ten, and one free, $15; Fifteen, and one free, $21; Twenty, and one free, $25; and any greater number at the same rate—only $1.25 per copy! Club papers sent to different post-offices, if desired. As we pay American postage on copies mailed to foreign countries, $1.37 is the lowest Club rate for Canada, and $2.25 to Europe.*

Please write all addresses plainly and carefully, in order that they may be accurately entered upon our books and correctly PRINTED by our Mailing Machine. All subscriptions should be well inclosed, and carefully addressed and mailed to

D. D. T. MOORE, Rochester, N. Y.

Special Notices.

COUGH LOZENGES.

Brown's Bronchial Troches. At this season of the year, when so many are troubled with hoarseness, influenza, and bronchial difficulties, these Troches afford a grateful relief. We have seen instances of their good effects in cases of inflammation of the bronchial tubes, and of the hoarseness of children. They contain nothing which can injure the constitution, and have a soothing effect very efficacious in assisting expectoration, and prevent the accumulation of phlegm. For public speakers, singers, and all persons troubled with hoarseness, they are invaluable.—*Portland Transcript.*

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DIETETIC.—Many people have a prejudice against Saleratus, thinking, and with reason, too, that this preparation is unhealthful, and ought to be avoided; but the best chemists and most learned physicians say that Saleratus, when *free from impurities*, is not only *not unhealthful* and provocative of dyspepsia, but that it, in reality, promotes digestion, and strengthens the digestive organs. A new process of refining this article, lately introduced, and in use only by D. B. DE LAND & Co., of the Fairport Chemical Works, Fairport, Monroe Co., N. Y., enables them to make a perfectly pure Saleratus, which should at once be in use in every household. The purity and reliable quality of DE LAND & Co.'s Saleratus should make it immediately popular. It is for sale by most grocers and storekeepers, and the grocers in the large towns and villages wholesale it.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

RURAL NEW-YORKER OFFICE,
Rochester, March 5, 1861.

POLITICS and bad roads have combined to render our market very quiet, and to admit their success is speaking in the mildest terms of stillness which prevails. We note a slight advance in Barley and a decline in Eggs. These are the only changes in our table of quotations.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES.

FLOUR AND GRAIN.	
Flour, winter wheat	$5,25@6,75
Flour, spring do	5,00@5,00
Flour, buckwheat	0,00@2,00
Meal, Indian	@1,12½
Wheat, Genesee	1,10@1,30
Best white Canada	0,00@1,35
Corn, old	00@50c
Corn, new	00@45
Rye, 60 lbs. ℔ bush	60@63
Oats, by weight	25@26
Barley	50@55
Buckwheat	35@40
Beans	75c@$1,00
MEATS.	
Pork, Mess	$16,50@00,00
Pork, clear	18,00@19,00
Pork, cwt	6,00@6,25
Beef, cwt	4,00@5,00
Spring lambs, each	1,50@2,00
Mutton, carcass	4@5c
Hams, smoked	9@10
Shoulders	6½@7
Chickens	9@10
Turkeys	10@11
Geese	40@50
Ducks ℔ pair	38@44
DAIRY, &c.	
Butter, roll	13@16
Butter, firkin	13@14
Cheese	9@10
Lard, tried	10@10
Tallow, rough	0@6
Tallow, tried	8@8½

Eggs, dozen	12@13c
Honey, box	12@14
Candles, box	12@13
Candles, extra	00@14
FRUIT AND ROOTS.	
Apples, bushel	25@31c
Apples, dried, ℔ lb	2½@3
Peaches, dried, ℔ lb	0@10
Cherries, dried	00@10
Plums, dried	00@10
Potatoes	40@50
HIDES AND SKINS.	
Slaughter	4@4½
Calf	8@8
Sheep Pelts	50@165c
Lamb Pelts	50@88
SEEDS.	
Clover, bushel	$4,00@4,80
Timothy	2,25@2,75
SUNDRIES.	
Wood, hard	$3,00@5,00
Wood, soft	3,00@3,00
Coal, Lehigh	7,00@7,00
Coal, Scranton	5,75@6,00
Coal, Pittston	5,75@6,00
Coal, Shamokin	5,75@6,00
Coal, Char	10@12½
Salt, bbl	1,70@1,78
Hay, ton	8,00@12,00
Straw, ton	0,00@0,00
Wool, ℔ lb	30@38c
Whitefish, half bbl	4,25@4,50
Codfish, ℔ quintal	4,50@5,00
Trout, half bbl	4,00@4,25

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, March 4.—FLOUR—State and Western dull and heavy, while prices generally have undergone no important change, shippers generally are holding off for a material concession. Sales at $5,00@5,15 for super State, $5,20@5,30 for extra do, $5,00@5,15 for super Western, $5,20@5,40 for common to medium extra do, $5,40@5,50 for inferior to good shipping brands extra round hoop Ohio, $6,00@7,00 for trade brands do. Canadian dull and heavy, sales at $5,20@6,75 for common to choice extra.

GRAIN.—Wheat without important change, holders are a little more disposed to realize, sales Milwaukee club and amber Iowa and Wisconsin at $1.22 in store; $1,23@1,24 for do delivered—latter prices for very handsome; winter red Western at $1,31@1,32, delivered, good white Canadian at $1,45, white Western at $1,45@1,58—latter for very choice. Rye quiet at 67@70c. Barley scarce and firm at 74@80c, sales State at 74c. Corn dull and lower for new and steady for old, with a moderate export demand, sales at 66@66½c for old mixed Western, in store, 67@67½c for do, delivered, 60@66c for new do. at RR. depot and 00c for new Southern yellow, 65@70c for common to fair white Southern. Oats plenty and dull at 34½@36c for Western, Canadian and State.

PROVISIONS.—Pork continues steady, with a fair demand, sales at $17.25 for mess, $17,50@17,75 for uninspected do., $12,50@13,00 for prime—latter price for very choice. Hogs dull and prices favor purchasers, sales at 6½@7½c for corn fed dressed, 4½@6c for live. Lard unchanged; sales at 9½@10¼c. Butter in fair request at 10@14c for Ohio and 14@20c for State. Cheese steady at 9@10½c for inferior to prime.

HOPS.—The market is without new feature. Consumers continue to buy pretty freely, but only in small parcels for immediate wants. The export trade has almost entirely ceased, the most of the parcels sent forward the past two months have been almost exclusively for owners account. The sales are about 200 bales at 20@32c, cash. Old growth are entirely neglected.

SEEDS.—Clover is active, we note sales 500 bags at 7½@7¾c., with some lots on private terms. For Timothy there is more demand, with sale at $3@3,50.

ASHES.—Pot remain steady at $5,12½, with sales of 75 bbls.—Pearl are quiet at $5,25.

TORONTO, March 2.—FLOUR—Sales to a considerable extent have been consummated at $4,70 for superfine, which is the true value of the grade at present. Fancy is nominal at $5,10@5,15. Extra quiet, but firmly held at $5,50, double extra, $6@6,25.

GRAIN.—Fall wheat has been pretty steady at $1 10@1,12 for medium to good lots, and from $1,12@1,15 for good to prime. In one or two cases on Tuesday, $1,16 was realized, but since then $1,15 has been the outside. There has been a moderate amount of competition, quite sufficient to keep the market steady, without unduly exciting it. The supplies have averaged about 3,000 bushels per day, and generally of very good sample.—Spring wheat has ruled firm throughout the week at 90@93c., with one or two purchases at a shade higher. Barley is offering only sparingly at 50c. per bushel, without much animation on the demand. Rye is scarce and nominal at 60c per bush. Oats are in large supply with prices regulated by each day's deliveries. We quote the best at 26@26½c per bushel. Peas are quiet at 50@53c and in moderately good supply.—*Globe.*

THE CATTLE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Feb. 27.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows.

BEEF CATTLE.	
First quality	$9,00@10,50
Ordinary quality	8,00@8,50
Common quality	7,00@8,00
Inferior quality	6,00@6,50
COWS AND CALVES.	
First quality	$45,00@60,00
Ordinary quality	40,00@50,00
Common quality	30,00@35,00
Inferior quality	25,00@30,00
VEAL CALVES.	
First quality, ℔ lb	6½@7½c
Ordinary quality	6¼@6 c
Common quality	4@5 c
Inferior quality	3½@4 c
SHEEP AND LAMBS.	
Prime quality	$5,50@7,00
Ordinary quality	4,00@5,00
Common quality	3,00@3,75
Inferior quality	2,75@3,00
SWINE.	
First quality	5¼@5¾c
Other qualities	4¾@5 c

BRIGHTON, Feb. 28.—At market—900 Beef Cattle, 89 Stores, 1,800 Sheep and Lambs, and 150 Swine.

BEEF CATTLE—Prices, extra, $0,00@0,00; 1st quality, $7,00@7,01, 2d do, $6,00@6,50, 3d do, $0,00@4,25.

WORKING OXEN—$75@90.

MILCH COWS—$40@47, common, $18@19.

VEAL CALVES—$4,00@4,00.

STORES—Yearlings, $0@0; two-years old, $13@14, three years old, $14@19.

HIDES—4½@5c ℔ lb, (none but slaughtered at market.)

CALF SKINS—10@11c ℔ lb.

TALLOW—6½@7c ℔ lb.

PELTS—$1,00@1,25 each.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—$1,50@2,00; extra, $3,00@5,00.

SWINE—Store, wholesale, 5@7c; retail, 6@8c. Fat Hogs, undressed, still fed, 5¾c.

CAMBRIDGE, Feb. 27.—At market 312 cattle, about 250 beeves and 62 stores, consisting of working oxen, cows and one, two and three years old.

BEEF CATTLE—Prices, extra, $6,75@7,00; first quality, $6,00@6,25, second quality, $5,50@0,00, third quality, $0,00, ordinary quality, $2,75.

WORKING OXEN—$80@155.

COWS AND CALVES—$30, $35, $40@00.

STORES—Yearlings, $0@0, two years old, $12@16, three years old, $17@19.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—2,067 at market. Prices—In lots $1,50@1,75, extra and selections, $2,50@6,00 each.

PELTS—$1@$1,25 each.

TALLOW—6½@7c ℔ lb.

HIDES—6½@7c ℔ lb. CALF SKINS—10@11c ℔ lb.

VEAL CALVES—None.

THE WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Feb. 28.—The market is entirely devoid of activity. The demand for Domestic Fleece and Pulled Wools during the past week has been very moderate, and the aggregate sales will not probably amount to more than 15,000 lbs. The inquiry for California Wools have fallen off, and the only transactions we hear of embrace about 6,000 lbs low grades at prices within our range. Reports have been circulated at the West that prices fully equal to those of last year may be expected this Spring, but upon what authority we cannot imagine for, with very large stocks already on hand, and the stagnation which prevails in the market, very few will be willing to buy Wool and pay prices upon which they must eventually accept a decline, it being almost certain that prices at the opening of the clip will be from 3@5c. lower. The Philadelphia North American of this morning remarks:—"There is little or nothing doing, and we have no change to notice in Pulled or Fleece, manufacturers buying in a small way only at previous rates." We quote

American Saxony Fleece, ℔ lb	46@48
American full blood Merino	41@44
American half blood and three-fourths Merino	38@40
American Native and one-fourth Merino	33@35
Extra Pulled	35@37
Superfine, Pulled	31@33
No. 1, Pulled	23@25
Lamb's, Pulled	28@30
California, extra	00@00
California, fine, unwashed	12@36
California, common do	12@20
Peruvian, washed	20@30
Valparaiso, unwashed	—@—
South American Mes., unwashed	15@21
South American Merino, unwashed	21@23
South American, common washed	13@15
South American Entre Rios, do	13@15
South American, unwashed	8@10
South American Cordova, washed	19@22
Cape Good Hope unwashed	26@28
East India, washed	10@30
African, unwashed	9@16
African, washed	18@28
Smyrna, unwashed	10@18
Smyrna, washed	25@26
Mexican unwashed	11@14

BOSTON, Feb. 28.—Fleece and Pulled Wool have been in moderate request, the sales of the week comprising 100,000 lbs. at prices indicating no change. In Foreign there have been sales of 150,000 lbs. Valparaiso at 13c, 6 mos; and 150 bales Cape, South American and Mediterranean, and 150 bales Peruvian on private terms.

Saxony and Merino, fine	48@55	Western mixed	20@30
Full blood	44@47	Smyrna, washed	15@26
½ and ¾ blood	40@43	Do. unwashed	9@17
Common	30@33	Syrian	10@23
Pulled, extra	40@48	Cape	19@30
Do. Superfine	33@40	Crimea	9@17
Do. No. 1	23@33	Buenos Ayres	9@43
Do. No. 2	16@25	Peruvian, washed	20@30

Married.

AT the Baptist Church, Lima, N. Y., on Wednesday, Feb. 27th, by Rev. B. R. SWICK, Mr. WELLS BAKER of West Bloomfield, and Miss CARRIE W. PECK, of the former place.

Advertisements.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 52½ cents per line of space. SPECIAL NOTICES, (following reading matter, leaded,) Sixty Cents a Line.

☞ THE RURAL NEW-YORKER commenced its Twelfth Year and Volume with an edition of *over* SEVENTY THOUSAND! Though the columns are wider than formerly (giving more words per line,) and the circulation much larger, we do not purpose to increase the Advertising Rates at present. The RURAL is undoubtedly the Best and Cheapest Advertising Medium of its Class in America—for, in addition to its immense circulation among the most enterprising and successful Farmers and Horticulturists, it is taken and read by thousands of Merchants, Mechanics, Manufacturers and Professional Men.

NATIVE EVERGREENS—5 varieties, 5 to 12 inches high, at $5 per 1,000.
JAMES A. ROOT, Skaneateles, N. Y.

15,000 HAWTHORN PLANTS—From Six to Twenty Inches above ground, for sale by
582-2t JOSHUA CHAFFEE, Geddes, Onon. Co., Feb., 1861.

50,000 APPLE SEEDLINGS, ONE YEAR Old, extra large, for sale at $3 per 1,000.
HORACE BLACKMAN, Newark, Wayne Co., N. Y.

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ON
SLAVERY.

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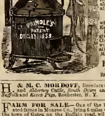

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Rochester, N. Y., August 21, 1860. 554-tf

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STARS OF MY COUNTRY'S SKY.

BY LYDIA H. SIGOURNEY.

Are ye all there? all ye all there,
Stars of my country's sky?
Are ye all there? are ye all there
In your shining homes on high?
"Count us! Count us!" was their answer,
As they dawned on my view,
In glorious perihelion,
Amid their fields of blue.

"I cannot count ye rightly,
There's a cloud with sable rim;
I cannot make your number out,
For my eyes with tears are dim.
O, bright and blessed Angel,
On white wing floating by,
Help me to count and not to miss
One star in my country's sky."

Then the Angel touched my eyelids,
And touched the frowning cloud,
And its sable rim departed,
And it fled with murky shroud.
There was no missing Pleiad
'Mid all that sister race;
The Southern Cross shone radiant forth,
And the Pole Star kept its place.

Then I knew it was the Angel
Who woke the hymning strain
That, at our dear Redeemer's birth,
Flowed out on Bethlehem's plain.
And still its echoing key tone
My listening country held,
For all her constellated stars
The diapason swell'd.

The Story-Teller.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

EDITH RAYMOND.

A LOVE STORY.

BY KATE CAMERON.

[Concluded from page 76, last number.]

Just as I wished, my father was the first to enter the room; an introduction was hardly necessary, and in a few moments the two persons dearest to me on earth were apparently much interested in one another. I was very happy, and would have risen and re-arranged my toilet, had not an occasional paroxysm of pain warned me that for one day, at least, I must remain perfectly quiet.

In an hour more, mama and Bertha came in from a shopping expedition. They had learned from the servant that there was a gentleman in the parlor with Miss Edith; so their outer wrappings were laid aside, and they entered the room, dressed in faultless taste. Father introduced them, and I could see Paul's admiring gaze fixed upon Bertha all the while he was listening to mama's studied greeting. I did not wonder at it, it seemed to me that my half-sister had never before looked so bewitchingly lovely, and I well knew how devout a worshipper at the shrine of the graces was my Artist-lover.

Dinner was announced, and my Father stopped as he was passing my couch to stroke my head, and say, "poor child!" then stepping into the hall, he waited for Mr. Vernon, who bent down and kissed my brow, and then I was alone. I could not think,—my suffering was too great for that, but there was an undefined shadow of approaching sorrow, which seemed to dim my spirit. I longed to lift the vail, and meet the dread certainty, whatever it might be, face to face.

In the afternoon, the conversation turned upon music and the opera; and mama reminded Bertha that the celebrated cantatrice, whom she had been so anxious to hear, was to appear for the last time that evening, and expressed her regret that "dear Edith" would be unable to go, otherwise they might get up a delightful little company. Paul glanced at Bertha, then at me; he felt sure, he rejoined, that Edith would excuse him for one evening, especially as she needed repose most of all things, and he should be only too happy to wait upon the ladies.

After a little hesitation, they acquiesced; but I saw that my father looked displeased, although he did not speak; yet the cloud which I had learned to interpret, darkened his brow for a moment. "Shall I not help you up stairs, Edith?" he asked at last, kindly; "I fear this excitement has been too much for you; your cheeks are flushed, and your hands dry and hot," he continued, standing by my side. "No, dear father," I answered, "let me stay here until evening, I am already feeling better."

Most of Paul's conversation was addressed to mama and Bertha, though he often looked at me with a smile, or spoke some kind word, as if in atonement for a greater neglect. The short winter afternoon drew to a close. The family took tea, and the ladies went to dress for the evening. Paul sat by my side until they came down, and then, with a fond "Good night," he left me and joined them. Bertha was dazzlingly beautiful, in jewels, ermine, and velvet. Mama, dressed full as richly, wore an exultant smile. She felt that she was helping her daughter win a prize in Life's lottery.

No sooner had the carriage rolled from the door, than I said, faintly, "now, father, dear, I am ready," and taking me in his arms as he would an infant, he carried me to my room, and rung the bell for the maid to assist me in undressing. Very kindly did he kiss me, and again murmur, "poor child."

For hours, dark phantoms and an undefined dread hovered about my pillow; at last, a troubled, but deep slumber, brought the balm of forgetfulness, and when I again awoke, it was late in the morning. I felt too weak to rise, and when my faithful attendant came softly into the room, I asked her to bring me toast and coffee, and told her I should not attempt going down stairs that day. On her returning with the refreshments, she said, "Mr. Vernon is in the parlor, and wishes to know how you are feeling to-day, and how soon he may hope for the pleasure of seeing you."

"Tell him," I answered, "that I am better, but very weak; I shall be happy to see him to-morrow morning." In a little while I heard strains of music; the sweet voice of Bertha blended with the rich tones of her piano. My heart told me that she was not playing for her own amusement merely, and I was not surprised to learn that Mr. Vernon had remained to dinner, and left late in the afternoon, again expressing his regrets at my continued illness.

The following morning I was able to meet the family at breakfast. At an early calling hour, Paul came again. Mama and Bertha were both out, and we spent two hours with nothing to interrupt our pleasant converse. Very kind, considerate, and thoughtful of my comfort, seemed my betrothed; but not one word was spoken of our future, and I felt that it was not for me to introduce the subject. Paul urged another engagement for not remaining with me through the day; but said he would come in again towards evening, and then he left. At five o'clock he called, but for a moment, he said. He hoped I was now quite well; the next day we would go out together, and visit some of the places of interest in the city. He trusted I did not doubt his love for me, and thus "striving to make assurance doubly sure," he again went away.

That evening mama proposed to father that they should give a party in honor of his future son-in-law. Father did not seem to think it necessary,—indeed, I felt that he disapproved of Paul's attentions to Bertha. However, he did not dispute the point, but, as usual, left it all to his wife. She and Bertha arranged the matter, and fixed the time one week from that night. I fancied I saw in this plan a plea for lengthening Paul's visit, which I knew he had not originally contemplated as lasting more than a week at the furthest. But I was not to have a voice in the matter, and why should I not rejoice at anything which could keep him near me?

The day following, Paul called for me early, as he had promised, and we had a delightful time; visiting picture galleries, and stately edifices, some of the "lions" of our great city. I felt very proud of Paul as I leaned upon his arm, and he said, warmly, "You look like Glenwood and yourself, to-day, dear Edith." But when we returned to the house, and I had gone to my room to lay aside my outer garments, mama and Bertha quite monopolized him, and made him promise to remain through the rest of the day. He chatted with them until dinner time, while I sat by the window, sewing.

But why dwell thus minutely upon the events of those days? Is it because I dread the record of the next week's occurrences?

On the sabbath, Paul accompanied us to church, and I heard his voice, clear and full, in the responses. We sat beside each other and used the same Prayer Book; it was bound in velvet, and my name was engraved on the gold clasp.

"Will you give this to me, Edith?" he asked, as the services concluded.

"Certainly, if you wish it, Paul; but it is a strange request." He hurriedly placed it in his breast pocket as if it could soothe the troubled throbbings of his heart.

A day or two more passed, in which Bertha saw Paul quite as often as I did. He seemed entranced when listening to her musical voice, or watching her countenance which was ever the same in its perfect radiance. It lacked the changing expression that was the chief charm of Paul's own face. Bertha was more like a living picture, or breathing statue.

One evening I had been alone in my chamber, watching the rich sunset hues of the western sky, when remembering a new volume of poems which I had left on the center-table, I went down to get them, that I might thus beguile the time of its weariness until Paul should come, as he had promised to at seven o'clock. I opened the parlor door and saw it was quite dusky there, for the windows were toward the east, and already had twilight wrapped the earth in shade. What was my surprise to hear the voices of Paul and Bertha proceeding from the recess of the damask draped window. They did not hear my soft steps. I had approached the table and taken the book, which I readily found, when I heard Bertha say,—"But what will Edith think? I must not take you away from her."

"Edith is generous," was the response; "nor would she wish my hand without my heart, and that is yours, my beautiful Bertha! Must I plead in vain?"

But I could hear no more. With noiseless, yet hurried tread, I left the apartment, and in another moment had reached the library door. Father was there alone; he had just lighted the gas, and as he saw the startled expression of my face, he exclaimed, "Why! child, what is the matter?"

"Paul,—Bertha,—" I gasped, and throwing myself into his arms, I laid my head upon his shoulder, and sobbed long and convulsively. Gently did he soothe me, and when I became more composed, I told him all, how I had over-heard Paul's declaration of love to my sister, and how sure I felt that it was reciprocated. My father's face wore a stern look which almost frightened me; but I did not cease my intercession until he promised to do as I wished,—give Bertha, instead of me, to Paul.

"You are right, child," he said, at last. "Mr. Vernon is no longer worthy your love. It shall be as you request. And," he added, bitterly, "if the daughter prove to be like the mother, he will be punished, he will be punished!"

So the bell was rung, and a servant sent to the parlor with the word that Mr. Raymond wished to see Mr. Vernon for a few moments in his library.

Five minutes elapsed, which seemed an age to me, and then I heard Paul's footsteps, slow and unsteady, along the hall, and when he entered the room, a troubled look of doubt and uncertainty was on his usually frank and open brow. I stood by my father's chair; he motioned Paul to be seated, and then proceeded:—"I am informed, Mr. Vernon, that you have transferred your attentions from my eldest daughter to her sister, and I felt that I had a father's right to learn the truth from your own lips."

He stammered a reply, but I interrupted him. "Forgive me, Paul, for overhearing words that were not intended for my ear. I went into the parlor unperceived by you, while you and Bertha were conversing in the window, and so I now give you up to her. Be true to her, Paul, for she is child-like and trusting." At that moment she seemed to me as aunt Fanny had said Paul's mother did to her, "just like a baby." But I,—I was a strong woman,—I could endure anything! And I continued, holding out my hand, "Good bye, Paul, God bless you. It will not be right for me to see you again for a long while." He seized my hand, pressed it to his lips, and said, "My noble Edith, Heaven will reward you for all this." He seemed much affected. My father remarked with some bitterness, "I presume, Mr. Vernon, that you will require nothing more from me. Having but these two daughters, it will be impossible for me to accommodate you, should you choose to make another change in the object of your affections," and ere Paul could reply to this well merited sarcasm, he was coldly bowed from the room, and my father clasped me to his heart.

"What can I do for you, my poor, dear Edith?" he asked with pitying fondness.

"Only help me to be strong, my father; I must not think now."

"I felt how it would all end," continued he, "when I saw how much Mrs. Raymond was captivated with this young man; I knew something wrong would be the consequence. Depend upon it, she is at the bottom of it all. It is her manoeuvering to secure so desirable an alliance for her daughter, and you, my child, are the sacrifice."

"Don't, father, don't,—I cannot bear this now,—I must not dwell longer upon this painful theme. Good night, my dearest friend," and kissing him, I left him [illegible] my own room, which I resolved to keep until P[illegible] should leave town.

The next day, a small package was handed me; on opening it, I found an elegantly bound Prayer Book, far more costly than the one which, at his own request, I had given to Paul, accompanied by a pencilled note:

"I replace your Prayer Book, Edith. Would that I could as easily restore your peace of mind, and happiness of heart. But you will be happy. It is I who have sinned, and who must suffer. I am unworthy your remembrance. Forget me if you can. Paul."

Well might he say, "if you can." Forgetfulness is not a boon granted to those who sorrow over blighted hopes! For one whole day, mine was the mournful task to uproot every fond memory and anticipation, which had bloomed or budded in the garden of my heart. With tear-dimmed vision did I read the lesson which none can fully understand until stern experience has written it in their own history.

> "Alas! for the bright promise of our youth!
> How soon the golden chords of Hope are broken,
> How soon we find that dreams we trusted most
> Are very shadows!"

Henceforth the name of Paul Vernon must not have power to thrill my very being; he was no longer my own, but another's,—and that one my sister,—the daughter of my father! For his sake I must be calm; it was my duty. And then I remembered that each one must bear a cross, and this was mine; and then I prayed for strength to endure this heavy sorrow, and my prayer was answered. Think not that with that serene twilight hour, ended my sufferings. Ah, no! only from that time I ceased to hear the burden alone. It was a relief to me when I learned that the talked-of party had been given up; that was a step further than mama dared go. Having gained her object in securing Paul for Bertha, she forbore to add aught to the crushing weight of my grief.

My father told me when Paul had gone, and once more I mingled with the household bodily, but there was little of spiritual intercourse between us. My only social hours were spent in father's library. At my request he promised not to give Uncle Philip an account of the recent events, which we knew would excite his indignation; it was better to wait until all was over, and then he would have no opportunity to remonstrate with Paul.

The wedding was to be in April, for Paul had decided to go to Italy, to remain at least two years. I could but think how fondly I had ever hoped to visit that classic shore, but not mine the coveted boon. I must stand silently by and see another in the enjoyment of the blessing.

But I soon found that idleness must be avoided if I would retain any degree of composure. I had sufficient pride to keep my cheek from paling, and my form from wasting, until the cold world should bestow its *pity* upon the broken reed. But in my hours of solitude, it was so hard to be cheerful, and I determined to be constantly employed. I marked out for myself a thorough course of Historical and Biographical reading. I also offered to write two hours daily for father, copying business letters or important papers, and soon had the satisfaction of finding myself an indispensable assistant to him. This, with a daily walk for healthful exercise, and the reading, occupied my mornings. Writing, sewing, music, or poetry filled up the remaining hours of day; and the evenings were sometimes devoted to lectures, or a church service, which I attended, accompanied by some lady acquaintance; for intimate friend [illegible] none.

Then I began to accuse myself of selfishness, and thought of my sister so soon to leave me, and I was doing nothing for her,—nothing for the bride of my Paul. It cost me a severe struggle, but I conquered, and then I offered to aid her in her preparations. She seemed very grateful, and kissed me with unusual affection,—I thought with a pang of remorse for the wrong she had done me. A portion of each day I now spent in the sewing room, and garment after garment passed from my hands completed. At last I placed the finishing stitches in the bridal robes of snowy satin, trimmed with costly lace—and it was my own hand that fastened the orange wreath and graceful veil over the sunny tresses of the fair bride.

They were married in church on a warm April evening. Father and mama formed part of the group around the altar, but I sat alone in our own seat, holding the prayer book which Paul had given me. Like a vision of beauty Bertha glided past me through the aisle. I could not see Paul's face, but the tall and graceful form, the wealth of dark-brown hair, were visible, and I *felt* his presence. The impressive service commenced, and soon I heard the rich tones of Paul's voice, vowing to another the love once pledged to me. With a fixed, stony gaze, I looked, until I could not see for the tears that blinded me, and then I bowed my head upon the prayer book, at the moment the newly-wedded knelt at the altar. I prayed for grace and strength, and they were given me. And when the organ poured forth its deep-toned melody, my spirit seemed to rise exultant above the cares and changes of this fleeting world—and I thought of that blessed home above, where "they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven."

Slowly did they pass from the church. My father paused a moment, and I took his arm and returned home in the carriage with him and mama. When I entered the drawing-room, Paul and Bertha were receiving the congratulations of their friends. Father was standing near, and he led me up to them. Bertha kissed me, with the words, "My darling sister, I am very happy!" But Paul only took my hand and said—"Edith!"

I moved through the crowded rooms that night, striving to make it pleasant for all our guests. Perhaps I carried my complaisance too far for a young lady of twenty-three. I might have been too patronizing; for I heard one lady say to another, "Well! really, Miss Raymond is getting to be quite an old maid! She already wears that benevolent smile characteristic of the race." But I cared little for the opinion of the world; I had the approval of my own conscience, and I was content. A week intervened between the wedding and their departure for Europe. That occurred on the first of May, the anniversary of my journey to Glenwood. We had sent cards to Uncle Philip, with a brief account of what we knew would be to him startling intelligence, immediately after the marriage. He replied at once with great affection; but it was easy to see his indignation was thoroughly aroused. Very kindly did he urge my coming to Glenwood again for the summer, but that was not for a moment to be thought of. I must wait for time to heal the wounds of estrangement, ere I could trust myself to revisit those loved scenes. My father proposed that I should accompany him on a long tour through some of the Western States to the great lakes, Niagara, and the Thousand Isles. Mama had already declared her intention of spending the season at Newport and Cape May. All this was talked over before Mr. and Mrs. Vernon left us. I was glad to have Paul know that I should not remain pining at home. They sailed on a bright morning. Bertha smiled amid her tears as she parted from her mother, but she bade father and me a cheerful good-by. Paul said but little—but when I gaily remarked, "Think of me in Florence," he answered, with a touch of sadness, "I shall never forget you, Edith!" Had he already repented? But that was no concern of mine. For a long while we were all lonely. It was mama's first real trial, the parting from her darling child; but she consoled herself with her preparations for the summer's pleasures. We left New York the same day, traveling in opposite directions.

Delightful were our ramblings through that long summer. My father, ever kind to me, his pet child, seemed to redouble his thoughtful attentions, and spared no pains or expense to gratify my slightest wish. Our tour was protracted until late in September, then, as we were on our homeward way, we received a telegram, begging us to hasten, as Mrs. Raymond was very ill. We rode day and night, but when we reached home it was too late for human aid to avail aught. She only lived three days. In her dying hour she called us to her bedside, and taking our hands in hers, already cold with the death-damp, she bade us ever love her darling Bertha, and prayed us to forgive all that *she* had done to cause us pain. That death hour drew the veil gently over her past errors, and my father and I never again spoke of her save with that charity which "thinketh no evil."

Letters were exchanged with Bertha after her mother's death, and then for a year we heard nothing. The winter months we spent in our city home, and the following summer we went to Glenwood.

Another Autumn, and we heard from the wanderers. A letter from Paul announced the advent of a daughter, named from their chosen abode, "Florence." There was not a word of returning to America. Two years more, and only an occasional letter reached us. These again ceased, and we scarce ever mentioned the absent ones who had brought upon themselves this apparent oblivion.

I had now passed my twenty-seventh birthday, and had so long worn the dignity of housekeeper, that I felt even older. One day a large letter with a foreign post-mark was brought in. It was directed in Paul's clear hand, but the letter itself was traced in trembling characters by Bertha. The contents startled me. She wrote, as she said, upon her death-bed, knowing that soon she should be in her grave far away from home and kindred. She entrusted her little Florence, now three years old, to my care, begging me to be a mother to her, and make her like myself; not allow her to lead the frivolous and useless existence she herself had led. Touchingly she prayed me to forgive her, and to forgive Paul for all they had caused me to suffer. And with a message of love to our father, she bade us both a long farewell. There was a postscript from Paul, from which I knew that many weeks ere the sad letter was received the hand that penned those lines was cold in death.

My father seemed much affected by the mournful tidings; indeed, he appeared to grow old very rapidly, and could not bear to have me out of his sight. My whole life was devoted to his comfort. But ere winter again commenced his icy reign, our family circle was increased by the arrival of the husband and child of our lost Bertha. Paul was sad, but very kind; there was an expression of earnest thoughtfulness on his face, which I had never before seen it wear. Florence was a perfect sunbeam; in person, a miniature of her mother, with the same matchless beauty, but with a deeper toned nature, and more affectionate and winning ways. Paul's first intention was to leave her with us, and go to his old home in Boston. But father persuaded him to open a studio in New York, and remain with us; he said his house was large, and seemed so lonely with only two or three inmates. Florence was already a pet with her grandfather; and indeed she seemed the bright link uniting all our hearts.

Little remains to be told, for with me the age of romance has passed, and I cannot now, as formerly, dilate upon the occurrences of each day and hour. In after-life we only count the years, while youth hoards the moments. For a year had Paul and his little Florence been with us; and very dear were they both to my heart. The love which I had first felt seven years before, seemed to arise phœnix-like from the ashes of the past, and it was now a purer, holier affection. I think Paul read this in my eyes, for I often met his earnest gaze fixed on me. And then again, he told me of his love. Of his early repentance for his folly in linking his destiny with a mere child, instead of the mature mind whose aid he so much needed. Of the unavailing regrets in which he indulged, and then of the struggle, in which he had finally been victorious, and devoted his life to making Bertha more like the ideal he had long cherished of a true wife. In a measure, he succeeded; but Bertha lacked that depth of feeling and earnestness of purpose which could enable her to sympathize in his aspirations and aid his endeavors. Their life was embittered by the recollection of their early error, nor could they forget the great wrong they had done me. But death severed the tie which united them, and then again Paul and I were thrown into each other's society. And now, did I love him, could I love him?

Again our father gave us his blessing—and on my thirtieth birth-day I became the wife of my first, my last, my only love, Paul Vernon. We visited Glenwood, taking our little Florence with us; and the delight of our good uncle and aunt was unbounded. We went together to all the well-remembered haunts, and lived over again the joyful experiences of that first summer of our acquaintance. And contrasting *then* with *now*, we felt that our discipline, although severe, had been wisely ordered. We were better prepared for the stern conflict of life.

We are again in our city home; and now I close this long record of eight years of my life. My pathway has led through sunshine and shadow; but now, whatever be in store for me, I go forth, leaning upon a strong arm; and however thorny may be our mortal pilgrimage, yet

> "See we not up earth's dark glade,
> The gate of Heaven unclose?"

We are a happy family—father, little Florence, Paul and I. Nor are our Dead forgotten. Beside mama's monument in Greenwood, there is one erected to the memory of our beautiful Bertha, though unconsecrated by the presence of her dust; for "o'er her the myrtle showers its leaves, by soft winds fanned." Carefully trained plants shed a wealth of bloom and perfume around the spot; but they are less sweet and enduring than the flowers of love and forgiveness, with which our memories have entwined the names of the Departed.

Rochester, N. Y., 1861.

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It is a good rule always to back your friends and face your enemies.

Corner for the Young.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

AGRICULTURAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of 40 letters.
My 23, 37, 39, 10, 2, 19 is a well known kind of hay
My 6, 35, 14, 37 is very fond of manure
My 8, 6, 15, 33, 1, 29, 30, 34, 12, 25 is one great cause of poor farming
My 36, 11, 4, 35 is what most fast young men sow in their youth.
My 20, 31, 22, 14, 7 is what every farmer ought to have plenty of.
My 3, 31, 39, 24, 9, 34, 21, especially in the Western States, are the farmers' deadliest enemies.
My 16, 22, 34, 19, 37 is what every farmer ought to read regularly.
My 31, 33, 23, 24, 29, 39, 15, 40 is the center of one of the best farming districts in the West.
My 35, 14, 23, 24, 37, 16 is still retained as the emblem of the harvest field, although long since gone out of use
My 23, 37, 28, 31, 24, 35 is what too many farmers' boys want to be
My 13, 39, 26, 30, 20, 38, 16, 25 constitutes an important article of food.
My 23, 30, 32, 13, 38, 6, 17, 19, 33, 11, 13 is what a great many farmers never saw
My 27, 10, 34, 10, 2, 6, 20 is generally a very busy time
My 30, 14, 15, 40, 21 is what every farmer ought to protect
My whole every farmer ought to remember
Rockford, Ill., 1861. E. W. Hicks.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

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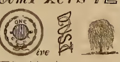
ILLUSTRATED REBUS.



☞ Answer in two weeks

◆

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

ALGEBRAICAL PROBLEM.

A poulterer going to market to buy turkeys, met with four flocks. In the second were six more than three times the square root of double the number in the first, the third contained three times as many as the first and second; the fourth contained six more than the square of one-third the number in the third, and the whole number was 1,938. How many were there in each flock? H. L.

Marshall, Calhoun Co., Mich., 1861.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

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"BITE BIGGER, BILLY."

A dear friend of the children, Mrs. Gildersleeve, of Buffalo, contributes the following beautiful and touching incident to the Boys' and Girls' Department of the *American Agriculturist*:

"Walking down the street, we saw two very ragged boys with bare toes, red and shining, and tattered clothes, upon which the soil of long wear lay thick and dingy. They were 'few and far between'—only jacket and trowsers, and these solitary garments were very unneighborly, and objected to a union, however strongly the autumn wind blew at the comfort of such an arrangement. One of the boys was jubilant over a half-withered bunch of flowers some person had cast away. 'I say, Billy, warn't somebody real good to drop these posies just where I could find 'em, and they's so pretty and nice?—Look sharp, Billy, and may-be you'll find something kinchy—Oh, jolly, Billy, if here ain't most half a peach, and 'tain't much dirty, neither. 'Cause you hain't got no peach, you may bite first. *Bite bigger*, Billy, may be we'll find another 'fore long.'

"That boy was not cold, nor poor, and never will be; his heart will keep him warm, and if men and women forsake him, the very angels will feed him, and fold their wings about him. 'Bite bigger, Billy, may be we'll find another 'fore long.' What a hopeful little soul! If he finds his unselfishness illy repaid, he will not turn misanthrope, for God made him to be a *man*, one to bear his own burden uncomplainingly, and help his fellows besides. Want cannot crush his spirit, nor filth stain it, for within him and about him the spirit of the Christ-child dwelleth always.

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ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 580.

Answer to Miscellaneous Enigma:—Hugh Swinton Legare.

Answer to Illustrated Rebus:—The Rural in circulation reaches nearly 100,000.

Answer to Poetical Enigma:—The letter Y.

Answer to Algebraical Enigma:—$\frac{1}{4}(5 \pm \sqrt{5},)$ and $\pm \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5}$.

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